ETHICS STATEMENT

General Principles

The principles governing the ethical and professional conduct are the following:

1) **Professionalism** – the obligation to fulfil the attributions with responsibility, competence, efficiency, correctness, diligence and rigorousness;

2) **Impartiality and independence** – the imperative to maintain an objective attitude, neutral against any political, economic, religious interest or of the different nature than the scientific one, in the exercise of the attributions of the function, activity etc.;

4) **Moral integrity** – the prohibition to claim or accept, directly or indirectly, for themselves or others, any moral or material benefit or to abuse in any way the function they hold;

5) **Freedom of thought and expression** – the freedom to express and ground opinions, respecting the order of law and good manners;

6) **Honesty and fairness** - fulfilling the duties of the service must be in good faith and act for their proper accomplishment;

7) **Ensuring individual freedom and academic freedom**; freedom of publicity of the personal contribution in individual scientific activity;

8) **Respecting the truth**, individual and / or group dignity, without affecting the image of the Institute and the academic community; the observance of the truth in the documentation of participation in competitions for obtaining national / international financing;

9) **Individual and/or organizational** autonomy in carrying out scientific research and in using scientific research results;

10) **Individual and / or institutional intellectual property right**, as well as industrial property right, as the case may be, in connection with public liability for any damage caused by the illegal and immoral exercise of this right;
11) **Elimination of conflicts of interest and incompatibility situations** according to the legal and ethical regulations in the field;
12) **Decision-making transparency** and public accountability for strategic decisions; institutional independence from any partisan politics;
13) **Responsibility of the authors of the doctoral works**, as well as their tutors, for the deliberate distortion of the scientific content of these works and for plagiarism;
14) **Responsibility of authors of scientific works for scientific quality**, accuracy of data and originality of contents, according to the law;
15) **Intellectual probity and plagiarism sanction**;
16) **Encouragement for young people to develop their scientific activity**;
17) **Equal opportunities**;
18) **Stimulating creativity and proper recognition of performing activities**.

**GOOD CONDUCT IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION**

(1) The good conduct in the activities of scientific research, technological development and innovation, hereafter referred to as research-development activities, is based on a set of rules and procedures designed to comply with them;

(2) The norms of good conduct in the research-development activity include:

a) the norms of good conduct in the research activity;

b) the norms of good conduct in the activity of communication, publication, scientific dissemination and popularization, as well in what concerns the financing applications filed in the competitions of projects organized from public funds;

c) the norms of good conduct in the activity of institutional evaluation and monitoring of the research-development, of evaluation and monitoring of research-development projects obtained through actions within the National Plan of Research, Development and Innovation and of evaluation of the persons in order to grant degrees, titles, functions, awards, distinctions, bonuses, certificates or certificates in the research-development activity;

d) the norms of good conduct in the management positions in the research-development activity;

e) norms of good behaviour regarding the respect of the human being and dignity, the avoidance of the suffering of the animals and the protection and restoration of the natural environment and the ecological balance.
The deviations from the rules of good conduct, insofar as they do not constitute crimes according to the criminal law, include:

a) the deliberate hindrance, obstruction or sabotage of the research-development activity of other persons, including by unjustified blocking of access to the research-development spaces, by damage, destruction or manipulation of equipment, equipment, documents, computer programs, data in electronic format, necessary for other persons to carry out, carry out or complete research-development activities;

b) plagiarism and the correct attribution of the paternity of a work;

c) self-plagiarism;

d) the inclusion in the list of authors of a scientific publication of one or more co-authors who did not make a significant contribution to the publication or the exclusion of co-authors who made a significant contribution to the publication;

e) the inclusion in the list of authors of a scientific publication of a person without their consent;

f) the unauthorized publication or dissemination by authors of unpublished results, hypotheses, theories or scientific methods;

g) the introduction of false information in the applications for grants or financing, in the application files for habilitation title qualifications, for university teaching positions or for research and development positions;

h) the failure to disclose situations of conflicts of interest in conducting or participating in evaluations;

i) the breach of confidentiality in evaluation;

j) the discrimination, within the evaluations, on the basis of age, ethnicity, gender, social origin, political or religious orientation, sexual orientation or other types of discrimination, except for the affirmative measures provided by law;

k) the abuse of authority to obtain the status of author or co-author of subordinate publications;

l) the abuse of authority to obtain pay, remuneration or other material benefits from research-development projects led or coordinated by subordinates;

m) the abuse of authority to obtain the status of author or co-author of subordinate publications or to obtain pay, remuneration or other material benefits for spouses, relatives or relatives up to the third degree inclusive;

n) the abuse of authority to unjustifiably impose its own theories, concepts or results on subordinates;
o) the obstruction of the activity of an ethics commission, an analysis committee or the National Ethics Council, during the analysis of deviations from the good conduct in the research and development activity of subordinates;

p) non-observance of the legal provisions and procedures intended to respect the norms of good conduct in the research-development activity provided in the present Ethical and Professional Code, in the regulation of organization and functioning of the Institute and in the normative acts in force, including the non-implementation of the sanctions established by the commissions ethics.

The following situations may also attract the ethical responsibility by association for deviations from the good conduct in the research-development activity:

a) active participation in offenses committed by others;

b) knowledge of the misconduct committed by others and the non-commissioning of the ethics commission or the National Ethics Council;

c) co-authoring publications containing falsified or processed data;

d) failure to fulfil the legal and contractual obligations, including those related to the mandate contract or the financing contracts, in the exercise of the management or coordination functions of the research-development activities.

Contradictory data, differences in conception or practice, differences in data interpretation, differences of opinion are specific factors for research and development and do not constitute deviations from good behaviour. Also, the error does not constitute a deviation from the good conduct, if it is detected and recognized by its author.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Code of Ethics, the following terms are defined as follows:

1. co-author of a publication - any person nominated in the list of authors of a scientific publication.

2. the production of results or data - reporting of results or fictitious data, which are not the real result of a research-development activity, but the product of imagination.

3. falsification of results or data - selective reporting or rejection of data or unwanted results; manipulation of representations or illustrations; alteration of the experimental or numerical apparatus to obtain the desired data without reporting the alterations made.

4. plagiarism - the presentation in a written work or oral communication, including in electronic format, of texts, expressions, ideas, demonstrations, data, hypotheses, theories, results or
scientific methods extracted from written works, including in electronic format, of others authors, without mentioning this and without referring to the original sources; omitting clear citation markings in the text and mentioning the source work (book, article, report, web resource, etc.) in the final bibliography. It is not plagiarism to use short phrases or definitions, considered by the specialized community to be part of the fund of basic, common notions of a domain or a discipline. However, given that such an appreciation implies a certain degree of subjectivism, it is recommended that authors exercise their discernment in the use of such expressions or definitions.

5. **self-plagiarism** - the exposition in a written work or oral communication, including in electronic format, of texts, expressions, demonstrations, data, hypotheses, theories, results or scientific methods extracted from written works, including in electronic format, of the same author, or, of the same authors, without mentioning this and without referring to the original sources.

6. **conflict of interest** - a person cannot participate directly, as an evaluating expert, or indirectly, by taking nominal decisions of direct selection or exclusion of the evaluating experts charged with evaluating an institution, project, offer or candidate, if that person is part of the staff list of the institution, the project or the evaluated offer or other projects or offers submitted for financing within the same line of financing, auctions or requests for tender or if they are in the next relationship with the candidate or with the persons in the list personnel of the projects, offers or institutions evaluated: they are spouses, relatives or in-laws up to the third degree including.

7. **hostile action** - the mediation of any action taken to expose the institution or its members to negative consequences on its status. It refers to hiring, awarding professional degrees, promotions, obtaining grants or contracts, cooperation etc.

8. **referral** - notification of the Ethics Commission about a case to be considered in the hearing / research regarding the scientific research issues.

9. **arbitration** - solving a dispute about fraud in scientific research by an arbitrator. The decision of the referee must be respected in the Institute.

10. **arbitrator** - legal or natural person, with appropriate qualification, who must analyze and decide on the degree of culpability of the person accused of deviation from good conduct in scientific research.

11. **scientific community** - a group of scientific researchers from research-development units or institutions. Broadly speaking, it includes all scientific researchers in a country, in an area of the world, or around the world.

12. **confidentiality** - keeping confidential the ongoing ethical research, recently completed or unpublished on the person accused of fraud and on the person making an allegation.
13. **error** - unintentional mistake, due to insufficient information, insufficient professional practice, professional negligence or exaggerated scientific enthusiasm; the detection of the error imposes on its author the obligation to denounce it publicly; in the case of published works, the error should be acknowledged in the same journal, journal, etc. in which it appeared.

14. **evaluation** - appreciation of the results of the scientific research by using qualitative and quantitative criteria, such as the prestige of the magazine, journal, etc., the number of citations, the impact on the society, the scientific community or the environment etc.

15. **fraud** - the deliberate act of making, falsifying, plagiarism, illicit alienation of the results of scientific research, or other procedures that deviate from the practices accepted by the scientific community and which have the purpose of obtaining scientific prestige, of financing, of project management or of accepting research reports etc.

16. **incompatibility** - the situation in which there is a legal or natural person who has a personal and/or group interest that influences the impartiality and objectivity of his/her judgments and actions in making decisions, preparing the acts and performing the duties in evaluating, monitoring, realizing, reporting the didactic activities, research-development, administrative, as well as in obtaining and concluding contracts (commercial, research, etc.); personal interest is any advantage, material or other, pursued or obtained, directly or indirectly, for himself or for his/her spouse, relatives or relatives up to the third degree, by a person who exercises permanently or temporarily, with any title, a function of leadership, management, control, by using the reputation, influence, facilities, relationships and information to which it has access, by virtue of its exercise.

17. **integrity** - the quality of individual researchers, units and research-development institutions and associations with concerns in the field of research and/or capitalization of scientific results for respecting human dignity, intrinsic values of science, respect for living organisms and the environment.

18. **paternity** - the authorship of a scientific product.

19. **intellectual probity** - not accepting the falsification of scientific results, not acquiring ideas or results of scientific research, disclosing conflicts of interests, etc., in order not to mislead the scientific community and not to harm the society.

20. **scientific product** - product obtained from the scientific research activity.

21. **intellectual property** - the set of exclusive rights granted to intellectual creations; it comes in two forms: copyright and industrial property. The original works of intellectual creation in the scientific field, whatever the method of creation, the mode or form of expression and independent of their value and purpose, are the subject of copyright.
22. **industrial property** - refers to the technical (inventions, utility models) and aesthetic (industrial designs) creations, to the distinctive signs associated with the products (brand, trade name, geographical indication), as well as to the protection against unfair competition.

23. **responsibility** - the responsible attitude of individual researchers, research-development units and institutions, as well as scientific publications for maintaining integrity in research, development and innovation.

24. **sanction** - punitive measure applied to the natural or legal person, which does not comply with the regulations of good conduct in the activity of scientific research, technological development and innovation.

25. **scientific standard** - norm or set of norms that regulates good conduct in scientific research.

26. **scientific value** - the quality of a scientific product to contribute to the progress of knowledge.