

# NIM Centers Agreement

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After the successful conclusion of the NIM (Network of International Mathematical) Centers meeting in Paris on June, 1 2013, all the participants came to the agreement that concrete steps be taken without delay for the realization of the network. The starting member institutions of the NIM Centers include the Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences (ASSMS), the Centro de Investigacion en Matematicas (CIMAT) and the Vietnam Institute for Advanced Studies in Mathematics (VIASM). It is planned to invite other emerging centers to join the network. The ASSMS will be the secretarial center for the network during the first two years.

For initiating the first phase of activities of the NIM Centers, certain terms of agreement must be laid down. We begin by outlining a draft agreement between the members of the NIM Centers:

1. A program of **NIM Fellowships** will be initiated immediately for PhD students and post-doctoral fellows of the member institutions. Each NIM Center will annually host one PhD student and one post-doctoral fellow from among the other NIM Centers (preferably distinct) for a period of one year each. The accommodation and living expenses of the candidates will be the responsibility of the host centers. The candidates will be awarded a monthly stipend commensurate with, but perhaps somewhat more generous in comparison to, the local standard. The process of selecting the candidates for a given year will be the responsibility of the centers where they are based and must depend purely on academic merit. Each visit is for the whole duration from September to the end of August the next year. For a PhD student who wishes to, or is required by his/her advisor to, attend courses relevant to his/her work at the host center, an official document with grades and course credits will be offered to the student by the host center. The same document will be communicated to the home center of the student and be made a part of his/her official PhD coursework transcript.
2. Each NIM Center will organize a CIMPA school within the next 4 years. The students and faculty of the other centers in the network will have a sizable representation at the schools and may have an extended stay

beyond the duration of the school for organizing workshops and delivering lectures.

3. A program of faculty and staff mobility between NIM Centers will be set up. The main goal of such a program will be to explore possibilities for research collaborations between faculty members of the NIM Centers. This program will also serve to strengthen each center academically; faculty members from one center may be asked to deliver full courses, at the graduate level, in mathematical areas that may have no representation at the host center.
4. The Network will seek international evaluation after 4 years, and all the centers will submit a report to the evaluating body highlighting their individual and collective achievements.
5. A center may appeal for the withdrawal from one of the activities described above because of financial or other difficulties.

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