

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA**

AND

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, NATURE AND FOOD QUALITY OF
THE NETHERLANDS**

ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Minister of Rural Affairs of the Republic of Estonia and the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands (hereafter referred to individually as 'Participant' and jointly as 'Participants');

MINDFUL that both Participants are particularly interested in joining efforts to achieve more effective and environmentally friendly agriculture, which may contribute to improving the living conditions of the populations in both countries;

CONSIDERING the Participants' desire to forge a good and reliable partnership oriented towards the development of mutually advantageous projects and based on the principles of equality, solidarity and complementarity; and

EXPRESSING their resolve to strengthen technical and scientific cooperation in the fields of agriculture and fisheries, as well as the promotion of trade and investment in these areas, with a view to reinforcing the relations between the two countries;

Have come to the following arrangement:

**Paragraph 1
OBJECTIVE**

The Participants intend to promote and intensify cooperation between the two countries in the fields of agriculture and fisheries in accordance with the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Paragraph 2
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Participants will encourage, facilitate and promote cooperation in the following areas of sustainable agriculture and fisheries:

- 1) promotion of research and innovation in agriculture, including digital solutions, application of circular economy principles, preventing food waste and enabling a sustainable bioeconomy;

- 2) development and other cooperation through international organisations such as the OECD, FAO and IFAD;
- 3) research and development activities in the livestock sector, with special focus on sustainable production and the reduction of antibiotics use;
- 4) development of crop production and horticulture applications, including sustainable glasshouses;
- 5) agricultural science and research cooperation between their respective universities, research institutions and other organisations, including on risk communication, food safety, health products, breeding, conservation of genetic resources, and animal health and welfare;
- 6) agricultural education at vocational, undergraduate and graduate level, including bidirectional exchanges of students, staff and experts, and providing opportunities for practical training.

The scope of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding may be expanded by adding other areas of cooperation upon a joint decision of the Participants in writing.

Paragraph 3 IMPLEMENTATION

The Participants may enter into subsidiary arrangements for implementing the aforementioned cooperation.

Paragraph 4 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Any intellectual property rights arising from the implementation of activities within the areas of cooperation designated in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Memorandum of Understanding will be protected in accordance with the national laws of the Participants and their commitments as laid down in international agreements.

Paragraph 5 CONFIDENTIALITY

Technical data and information jointly provided by the Participants, including the results of joint research carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding, will not be transferred or supplied to any third party without the prior written consent of both Participants. However, the terms of this paragraph are not applicable insofar as they conflict with any obligation of either Participant to provide or disclose information required by applicable law. The terms of confidentiality will remain valid after termination of this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with paragraph 8.

Paragraph 6 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

The Participants will settle amicably, through consultations or negotiations, any disputes arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Paragraph 7
MODIFICATION**

Additions and amendments may be made to this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual consent of the Participants, in the form of a separate arrangement forming an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding. Such additions and amendments will become effective in accordance with paragraph 8 of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Paragraph 8
EFFECTIVE DATE, DURATION AND TERMINATION**

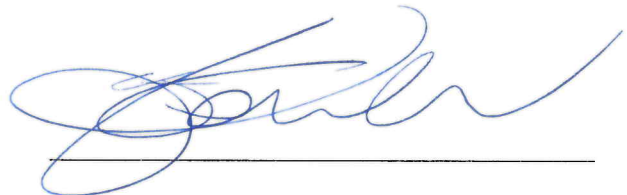
This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective on the date of signature for a period of five years. It will remain effective thereafter for a consecutive period of five years, unless one Participant informs the other in writing of its decision to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at least three months before its expiry.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the validity and duration of any activities carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding until such time as the implementation of accepted projects in the areas of cooperation has been completed.

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in duplicate in Tallinn, Estonia, on 13 June 2018 in the English and Estonian languages, both texts having equal validity. In the event of any disagreement about the interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding, the English text will prevail.



Minister of Rural Affairs
of the Republic of Estonia



Minister of Agriculture, Nature and
and Food Quality of the Netherlands