

ACTION PLAN 2018-2022
ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AFFAIRS OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS OF
THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Ministry of Rural Affairs of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as “the two Parties”)

Aiming to promote cooperation in the field of agriculture, fisheries and rural development between the two countries,

Based on the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Agriculture of China on Cooperation in Agriculture* signed on April 21st, 2011,

Observing the laws of the two countries,

Wishing to further promote agricultural cooperation between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefits,

Following friendly consultations,

Have decided to jointly carry out the following activities in 2018-2022:

1. Enhancing bilateral exchanges. The Parties agreed to continue and enhance the work of the China-Estonia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group (Director-General level), holding meetings once a year to update information, exchange policies and measures, formulate bilateral agricultural cooperation plans and find specific

cooperation projects. The Working Group Meeting will be held rotationally in China and Estonia. The specific date and venue of the meeting will be confirmed upon consultations.

2. Cooperation mechanisms between China and Central-Eastern European countries (CEECs). The Parties agreed to actively participate in activities under China-CEEC agricultural cooperation mechanisms to promote bilateral agricultural cooperation through multilateral platforms such as the China-CEEC Agro-Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum and the China-CEEC Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation.

3. Agricultural trade and economic cooperation. The Parties agreed to jointly promote bilateral agricultural trade and economic cooperation and encourage agricultural and food enterprises of the Parties to conduct cooperation. The Parties will actively organize domestic agricultural and food enterprises to participate in the China Agricultural Trade Fair (CATF) held in China, the Agricultural Fair and Food Fair held in Estonia and the Agro-Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum held in China or CEECs.

4. Agricultural Science and Technology Cooperation. The Parties agreed to conduct agricultural science and technology cooperation, strengthen cooperation in such areas as that between respective institutes in food product development, organize expert exchange, hold bilateral academic discussions and seminars or jointly organize international symposiums. The Parties will strengthen direct contact and cooperation between agricultural academies and universities as well as research institutes; exchange germplasm resources and information and literatures of agricultural research.

5. Fisheries. The Parties will encourage enterprises and research institutes to conduct mutually beneficial international cooperation in the fields of marine catch, aquaculture, etc.

6. Food safety and veterinary service. The Parties encourage organizing meetings and seminars for respective experts from both sides to update and exchange the information on the changes in national food safety requirements to contribute to the process of mutual recognition. Parties also agree to cooperate on mutual recognition of geographical indications and certification of organic agricultural products.

7. Rural development. The Parties agreed to enhance bilateral contacts and initiate bilateral projects in the field of rural development, raising agricultural competitiveness and developing rural areas with the aim of developing human capital, raise resource efficiency and promote environmental protection.

8. Information technology in agriculture. The Parties agreed to mutually cooperate and work on projects developing information technology solutions for agriculture and rural development. With this aim meetings and international conferences are organized and participation of relevant organizations encouraged by both parties.

This Action Plan can be supplemented and amended by mutual consent of the Parties. The Parties agreed to conduct a review of the implementation of this Action Plan and discuss the development of a new action plan at the end of 2022.

The funding arrangements for the activities under the framework of this Action Plan should be decided by the Parties through consultation.

Done in duplicate in Sofia on July 7, 2018 in Estonian, Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any differences in interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Rural Affairs of the
Republic of Estonia

For the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Affairs of the People's Republic of China

Tarmo Tamm
Minister

Han Changfu
Minister