

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD INDUSTRY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**ON SCIENTIFIC AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE**

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of the Republic of Moldova, hereafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

desiring to enhance the existing friendly relations between the two countries and develop the cooperation in the field of agriculture,

recognizing the value of exchange of experience on agricultural and sustainable rural development,

proceeding from the necessity to promote favourable conditions for market relations development,

have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

In compliance with the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding, hereafter referred to as the Memorandum, and in accordance with their national legislations, the Contracting Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between interested institutions of the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in various fields of agricultural research and development, taking into consideration the interest of the two countries.

The cooperation shall cover the following fields:

- a) strengthening of responsible institutions in the field of agriculture by capacity building to insure application of laws and encouragement of professional competence of state officials in development of agricultural policies;
- b) strengthening of Moldova institutions through exchange of experiences in development of agricultural policies and application of laws in fulfilling European Union's criteria and standards;
- c) exchange of experience and cooperation between Contracting Parties for organization of joint events, conferences, seminars on issues such as food safety, integrated production in agriculture and standardization of agricultural products;
- d) exchange of knowledge about the government programmes for rural and regional development and application of different necessary means for achievement of competitive agricultural standards in the market.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall concentrate their cooperation particularly in:

- a) sustainable rural development;
- b) food safety;
- c) seed growing and plant breeding;
- d) cattle and swine breeding;
- e) fisheries;
- f) veterinary;
- g) plant protection;
- h) marketing.

The Contracting Parties agree to cooperate in the following forms:

- a) exchange of information, visits, exchange of experts, research results and training;
- b) organization of seminars, symposia, exhibitions and conferences;
- c) any other technical form of cooperation as mutually agreed by the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 4

The corresponding units of the Contracting Parties to the Memorandum involved in foreign economic cooperation shall be responsible for the execution of the Memorandum. According to this Memorandum, the Contracting Parties to the Memorandum are also responsible for the implementation of specific projects, programmes of mutual activity and legislative cooperation.

ARTICLE 5

Bi-annual cooperation programmes shall be signed by the Secretary General of the Ministries of both countries.

ARTICLE 6

The international travel expenses shall be born by the visiting Contracting Party, while accommodation and internal travel expenses shall be assumed by the host country.

ARTICLE 7

Any divergence arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8

By the mutual consent of the Contracting Parties, this Memorandum may be amended, modified and terminated by a Separate Protocol, which shall become an integral part of this Memorandum. The Protocol shall take effect in compliance with the procedure under Article 9, paragraph 1.

ARTICLE 9

The present Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of signing.

This Memorandum shall be concluded for an indefinite period of time, unless any of the Contracting Parties terminates it in writing. The Memorandum shall cease to apply six (6) months after the receipt of such notification.

Signed on 16.08.2010 in two originals in the Estonian, English and Romanian languages. In case of dispute in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Agriculture of
Estonia



Helir-Valdor Seeder

For the Ministry of Agriculture and
Food Industry of Moldova



Valeriu Cosarciuc