

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION IN THE
FIELDS OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE
PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE BETWEEN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FROM THE REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND
FORESTS FROM ROMANIA**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests from Romania and the Philippine Department of Agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties";

Desiring to strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries through the development of cooperation in the field of agricultural science and technology and in the promotion of both states agricultural products on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect and benefit;

Have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISION**

The Contracting Parties shall pursue cooperative programs and exchanges in the field of agriculture science and technology and in the promotion of agricultural trade in accordance with the relevant laws, regulations and agricultural policies of their respective states.

**ARTICLE II
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the broad areas of soil science, plant and animal science, dairy, biotechnology, fruit and vegetable processing, post, harvest, trade promotion in agricultural and related products, *inter alia*, and shall include the following:

- (a) Exchange of materials and information;
- (b) Exchange of professionals, scientists, experts and trainees;
- (c) Provisions of scholarship programs;
- (d) Organization of training, symposia and conferences;
- (e) Conduction of strategic market facilitation activities including agricultural products trade fairs and special exhibition; and
- (f) Joint ventures and other means as may be agreed upon.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the involvement of concerned agencies, scientific, academic and business communities, both in the

public and private sectors of both states to generate broad interest and increased activities, including joint ventures in agribusiness.

To promote international agricultural trade, both Contracting Parties shall endeavor to create favorable conditions for import and export, including counter-trade arrangements, without affecting in any way their respective commitments under existing bilateral and multilateral arrangements.

ARTICLE III IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT

The Contracting Parties agree to implement this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with the framework of the GATT-UR Agreement.

Any discrepancy in the quality of products traded or to be traded shall be settled in accordance with applicable standards including sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS), and dispute settlement procedures under provisions of applicable WTO Agreements.

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be interpreted to prejudice or modify existing understanding and agreements between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE IV EXPENSES AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE

The sending state shall be responsible for international travel and related costs of its participation in cooperative activities, from its port of departure to the port of entry in the receiving state. The receiving state shall be responsible for local expenses including inland transportation costs, board and lodging, and emergency medical treatment of the members of the visiting delegation for the duration of the official mission in its territory.

The requesting Contracting Party shall shoulder the cost of postage and freight of materials / documents being requested.

Each Contracting Party shall endeavor to provide the necessary assistance to professionals, technicians and trainees sent by the other Contracting Party under this Memorandum of Understanding to accomplish their mission. They shall observe laws and regulations in force in the host state.

The foregoing provision shall not limit the right of either Party to adopt or execute measures necessary to uphold public health, morals, public order or security.

ARTICLE V JOINT COMMITTEE

To ensure the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Contracting Parties shall establish a Joint Committee composed of an