

MEMORANDUM OF UNDESTANDING

ON COOPERATION

BETWEEN THE

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA**

PREAMBLE:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry of the Republic of Namibia and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of the Republic of Argentina, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”;

By virtue of the close ties and amicable relations existing between the Republic of Namibia and the Republic of Argentina;

Aware of the importance of permanent dialogue between South American and African countries;

Taking into consideration the shared ambition to develop broad and effective cooperation in the agricultural, livestock, forestry, fisheries and agri-food areas for mutual benefit;

Taking into account the need to promote SACU-MERCOSUR partnership in the framework of South-South cooperation;

Recognizing the important role of these sectors for the enhancement of economic development and the achievement of food security, on the basis of the principles of fairness, solidarity and complementary reinforced through technical cooperation and technology and knowledge transfer, thus contributing to the accomplishment of economic independence and the strengthening of South-South cooperation.

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

The Parties intend to establish a general cooperation framework for the agricultural, livestock, forestry and agri-food sectors, including aspects related to primary production, processing, value adding, marketing and the expansion of markets.

ARTICLE 2

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation between the Parties shall include, inter alia, the following areas:

- a. Animal husbandry, technology in production, nutritional reproduction and health management, animal genetics, forage species genetics;
- b. Milk production technology and manufacture of dairy products from cattle and other species;
- c. Technology for the production and processing of farm products;
- d. Technology in agricultural production, soil management, conservation and planting systems, use of irrigation and post-harvest management;
- e. Agricultural biotechnology, research and regulation of genetically modified organisms, information exchange and cooperation in the regulatory areas related to the genetically modified organisms of interest to the Parties;
- f. Seed treatment, genetic breeding, certification and registration;
- g. Animal and plant health, food control and risk analysis;
- h. Food quality, quality protocols, and systems of appellation of origin;
- i. Marketing and market development for agri-food products;
- j. Development and exploitation of bio-energy;
- k. Exchange of information and experiences in forestry policies, development of products and species;

- I. Wine production, sanitary control, aspects related to marketing, import and export and relations between agencies enforcing specific regulations;

ARTICLE 3

COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Cooperation may take place as follows:

- a. Statistical and technical information exchange;
- b. Exchange of research documentation, materials and results of mutual interest;
- c. Institution-building support through training, advice and information exchange in relation to legal and regulatory frameworks, and rules adopted in the agricultural context;
- d. Joint organization of research projects, exchange of experts and support to training of professionals and experts;
- e. Participation of the representatives from the Parties in exhibitions workshops and conferences held within the territories of the REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA and the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA;
- f. Promotion of trade in agri-food products, machinery and inputs for the agri-food industry through trade missions, participation in fairs, business rounds, or other types of trade promotion;
- g. Development of activities leading to the increase of the trade opportunities of the REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA and the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA;
- h. Assistance in the establishment of direct economic relations among stakeholders of the agro-industrial sector of the REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA and the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA
- i. Identification of areas of mutual interest to potential investors.
- j. Development of forms of association for joint ventures between companies from REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA and the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA

ARTICLE 4
FUNDING OF COOPERATION

The expenses derived from the cooperation activities agreed and developed in the context of this Memorandum shall be borne by the Parties, with their own or other funding resources, as established at the beginning of each cooperation activity to be developed.

ARTICLE 5
JOINT COOPERATION PROGRAM

- a. The Parties shall establish a Joint Cooperation Program.
- b. The Program shall identify and specify the actions to be implemented in the context of the Program, prioritizing in the working agenda of those considered to be of highest Interest.
- c. For the preparation and organization of the Program, the Parties shall create a working group consisting of agri-food specialists according to the required disciplines.

ARTICLE 6
BILATERAL MEETINGS

- a. The Parties agree to exchange periodic reports on the progress made in the organization and implementation of the Joint Cooperation Program.
- b. The Parties may also hold meetings as frequently as deemed convenient, in which both the State authorities of the Parties and the duly appointed experts may participate.

ARTICLE 7
FOCAL POINT

For the purpose of coordinating, ensuring and implementing the cooperation activities, the Parties hereby designate the Department of Agriculture and Department of Water and Forestry of the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY of the REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA and the NATIONAL OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL FOREIGN AGRIFOOD of the SUBSECRETARY OF POLITICAL

COORDINATION of the SECRETARY OF INSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL COORDINATION AND AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY of the MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES of the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA
as Focal Points for the implementation of this Memorandum.

ARTICLE 8:
AMENDMENTS

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended through written agreement between the Parties;

ARTICLE 9
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Any disagreement arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 10
EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

- a. This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective on the date of its signature and remain in force for a period of FIVE (5) years; however, its renewal may be affected with a statement by the Parties expressing their intent of continuity for the same period.
- b. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by serving a prior six (6) months notice to the other Party making known its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate, each in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of divergences of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Done aton thisday of 2012

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**FOR THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

.....
**FOR THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK
AND FISHERIES OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA**