

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA
AND THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

The MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES of the REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA and the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE of the REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA, hereinafter referred to as the “the Signatories” and in the singular “Signatory”.

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of permanent dialogue between SOUTH AMERICAN and African countries;

CONSIDERING the shared ambition to develop broad and effective cooperation in the agricultural, livestock and agri food areas for mutual benefit;

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 complementarity reinforced through technical cooperation and technology and knowledge transfer, thus contributing to the accomplishment of economic independence;

Have agreed as following understanding:

Article 1
Purpose

The Signatories will, on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit seek to establish a general cooperation framework for the agricultural, livestock and agri food sectors, including aspects related to primary production, processing, value adding, marketing and the expansion of markets.

Article 2
Areas for Cooperation

Cooperation between the Signatories shall include, *inter alia*, the following areas:

- a. Animal Husbandry. Technology in production: nutritional, reproductive 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 Signatories;
- f. Seed treatment. Genetic breeding, certification and registration;
- g. Animal and plant health. Food control; 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; and
- k. Promotion of rural development and smallholder farming.

Article 3 Cooperation Activities

The Signatories have identified the following as activities and areas of cooperation:

- a. Exchange of research documentation, materials and results of mutual interest. Statistical and technical information exchange;
- b. Joint organization of research projects, exchange of experts and support to training of professionals and experts;
- c. Institution-building and support through training, advise and information exchange in relation to legal and regulatory frameworks, and rules adopted in the agricultural context;
- D. Participation of representatives from the Signatories in exhibitions, workshops and conferences held within the territories of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC and the REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA;
- e. 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 forms of business promotion;
- f. Identification of areas of mutual interest to potential investors to potential investors and development of activities leading to the increase of the trade opportunities of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC and the REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA;
- g. Assistance in the establishment of direct economic relations among stakeholders of the agro industry sector of the Argentine Republic and the Republic of Botswana;
- H. Development of forms of association for joint ventures between companies from the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC and the REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA.

The MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC shall coordinate actions relating to technical cooperation with the General Directorate of International Cooperation of the SECRETARIAT OF COORDINATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION of the MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Article 4 Funding of Cooperation

The expenses derived from the cooperation activities agreed and developed in the context of this Memorandum shall be born by the Signatories, as established at the beginning of each cooperation activity to be developed.

Article 5 Joint Cooperation Program Working Group

The Signatories shall establish a Working Group. To implement the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding the Signatories shall create a Working Group of the Joint Cooperation Program

(hereinafter referred to as “Working Group”). The composition of the Working Group shall be mutually agreed by the Signatories.

The Working Group shall identify and specify the actions to be implemented in the context of the Program, prioritizing in the working agenda those considered to be of highest interest.

The cooperation activities developed in the context of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be reviewed by the joint Working Group as frequently as deemed convenient. The results of the evaluations shall be shared between the Signatories.

The formulation progress and implementation of the work program shall be communicated to the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs, which can involve their technical areas in the implementation and monitoring of the program.

Article 6 Bilateral Meetings

The Signatories agree to exchange periodic reports on the progress made in the organization and implementation of the Joint Cooperation Program, which shall be communicated to the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

The Signatories may also hold meetings as frequently as deemed convenient, in the territory of each Signatory in which both the State authorities of “the Signatories” and the duly appointed experts may be invite to participate.

Article 7 Focal Point

For the purpose of coordinating, monitoring and implementing the cooperation activities, “the Signatories” hereby designate the NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF INTERNATIONAL AGRI FOOD AFFAIRS of the UNDERSECRETARIAT OF POLITICAL COORDINATION of the SECRETARIAT OF POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY of the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC and the DEPARTMENT OF POLICY RESEARCH AND STATISTICS (FOOD SECURITY) in the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE of the REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA as Focal Points for the implementation of this Memorandum.

Article 8 Effective Date and Term

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force on the date of its signature and remain in effect for a period of FIVE (5) years.
2. On the date of its termination, this Memorandum of Understanding will be automatically renewed for a successive period of the same length.

Article 9 Termination

1. During the term of this Memorandum of Understanding, either Signatory may terminate it upon written notice to the other Signatory of its intention to do so at least SIX (6) months before expiration.
2. Unless otherwise specified, the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding may not interrupt the projects and programs already in progress.

Article 10
Dispute Settlement

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation, application or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Signatories and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal.

Done in onof 2014 in TWO (2) original copies in the Spanish and English languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of divergences of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA	FOR THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
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