

## **AGREEMENT**

### **Between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) on Cooperation in the Field of Agricultural Science**

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia (referred hereinafter to as the Ministry of Agriculture) and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (referred to hereinafter as ICARDA), referred to collectively as the Parties.

Expressing mutual desire to develop cooperation in the field of agricultural science,

Convinced that the cooperation in the field of agricultural science will promote progress in agriculture, enhancement of soil fertility and productivity of crops and animals,

Aiming to create favorable conditions for ICARDA's collaborative activities with the Ministry in increasing agricultural production, conserving plant and animal genetic resources, and conserving the environment in the Republic of Armenia through foreign investments in agricultural science, use of modern instrument, and training of scientific staff,

Have agreed as follows:

#### **Article 1**

In order to achieve fruitful cooperation, the Parties will:

- a) exchange scientists, specialists and modern technologies;
- b) exchange seed and breeding materials in accordance with laws in force in the Republic of Armenia and with the International Convention on Biodiversity;
- c) exchange scientific literature, information and methodologies;
- d) facilitate the import and export of items relevant to the joint scientific research programs.

#### **Article 2**

In accordance with specific agreements between the Parties and within its personnel and budgetary limitations, ICARDA will provide:

- a) technical backstopping to the scientific research institutes in order to enhance the national research capacity of the Republic of Armenia;
- b) expatriate scientists to Armenia for long term, if it is required and feasible within the program;
- c) short term visits of scientists;

- d) training opportunities for national scientists and specialists from the different national institutions of Armenia, in addition to facilitating their participation in symposia, workshops and conferences;
- e) germplasm materials in quantities necessary for experiments and adaptive research;
- f) scientific research literature and publications.

### **Article 3**

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia within its personnel and budgetary limitations will provide:

- a) by mutual accord the facilities and land for research activities;
- b) by mutual accord scientific and necessary support staff for the joint projects;
- c) procedures/facilities for the entry into Armenia of ICARDA personnel, trainees and scholars associated with the ICARDA program;
- d) authorization for the unrestricted export of such germplasm into and out of Armenia for the implementation of joint programs with ICARDA, in accordance with international regulations and in observation of quarantine requirements and legislation in force in the Republic of Armenia.

The Government of the Republic of Armenia will provide prompt and speedy inspection of the material.

### **Article 4**

Both parties may develop joint projects on research areas of mutual interest to jointly seek support from potential donors.

### **Article 5**

The Parties will agree that:

- a) useful results, such as improved breeding materials, technical designs and methods, created by the joint efforts may be used by both Parties with equal rights;
- b) research findings will be published through mutual agreement and in the public interest with due credit to both Parties.

### **Article 6**

This Agreement can be modified and amended by the mutual consent of both Parties.

The changes and amendments shall be legalized by the separate Protocols, which shall be an integral part of this Agreement and shall enter into force in the established order in which this Agreement shall enter into force.

#### **Article 7**

This Agreement shall enter into effect on the date when the Armenian side has notified ICARDA that all legal formalities for its entry into force have been completed.

This Agreement will be valid for a period of five years and will be extended automatically for the same period unless either of the Parties expresses its desire to terminate it in a written form, by diplomatic channels, six months prior to its expiry.

Signed in two original copies, each of them in the Armenian and English languages, with both texts equally authentic.

Signed at Aleppo on September 16, 1999.

***The Agreement has entered into force on 10 April, 2000***