

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN  
AGRICULTURE AND RELATED FIELDS BETWEEN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES (DA) AND  
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA (USDA)**

Whereas, the DA and USDA (the "Parties") agree to pursue cooperative programs and exchanges in agriculture and related fields to strengthen relations between them through joint activities in accordance with this Memorandum of Agreement hereinafter referred to as "Memorandum",

Agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I  
PURPOSE OF COOPERATION**

This Memorandum has as its program goals the following: 1) to increase contact and collaboration among agricultural scientists and institutions of agricultural research, development, and higher learning between the two countries; 2) to provide agricultural researchers and institutions with opportunities to exchange information, ideas, skills and techniques; 3) to enhance opportunities to collaborate in solving problems of common interest relating to agriculture; and 4) to utilize special agricultural and development facilities for agricultural research.

**ARTICLE II  
AREAS AND SCOPE OF COOPERATION**

Selected priority areas for cooperation may include, but are not limited to: animal and plant health; integrated pest management (IPM) systems; biotechnology/microbiology; collection, preservation and characterization of animal, plant, and microbial germplasm; human nutrition; sustainable agricultural production systems; plant science; soil conservation and erosion control; energy in agriculture; agricultural engineering; cooperatives; marketing, distribution and storage, and other additional fields as mutually agreed by the Parties.

To generate broad interest and increased activities, the Parties shall, by mutual agreement, involve other interested government agencies, the scientific and business communities, and private sectors of both countries in cooperative programs and exchanges in implementation of this Memorandum.

The Parties shall, by mutual agreement, encourage and facilitate direct contacts between these groups to work toward long-term cooperation in programs of research, extension, and training, and to identify potential joint ventures in agribusiness.

**ARTICLE III  
IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS**

An Agricultural Linkage Program (ALP) shall be established pursuant to this Memorandum which will serve as the vehicle for implementing collaborative activities. All such cooperative activities shall be mutually agreed by the Parties and shall be described in and subject to individual plans of work delineating arrangements between participants that are specific for each ac

In general, cooperation will be effected by mutual agreement by the Parties, through exchange of materials and information; exchange of scientists, specialists, and trainees; organization of symposia and conferences, agricultural trade fairs and exhibitions; and joint publication of studies and reports.

The Parties shall pursue cooperative programs which will be explored and mutually agreed upon after consultation between representatives of both countries, and which will be implemented in conformity with the laws and national policies of both countries.

#### **ARTICLE IV JOINT COMMITTEE**

A Joint Committee, headed by designated officials from both Parties; shall be formed to provide guidance, facilitate cooperation, and review progress of activities. The Joint Committee shall have three (3) members representing the agricultural science and technology community of each country, who will serve for three (3) years. The designating official for the United States will be the Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of USDA. The designating official for the Philippines will be the Secretary of DA. The Joint Committee shall meet once every two (2) years, alternately in the United States and the Philippines, as mutually agreed by the Parties.

Each Party shall designate a Program Coordinator responsible for coordinating and monitoring the activities carried out under this Memorandum. The Program Coordinators shall be permanent members of the Joint Committee. During interim years, the respective Program Coordinators shall meet periodically, at times and places of their own choosing , to review and adjust ASP priorities and coordinate administrative details of the program.

#### **ARTICLE V FINANCING**

Each Party shall be responsible for the costs of its own participation, including appropriate kinds of insurance, subject to the availability of appropriate funds. Expenses related to the activities carried out under this Memorandum shall conform to the aforementioned individual plans of work, and each country shall comply with its domestic laws and regulations.

#### **ARTICLE VI COORDINATING OFFICES**

Under this Memorandum, the designated coordinating offices will be International Cooperation and Development (ICD) for the United States, and the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture for the Philippines.

#### **ARTICLE VII TREATMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**