

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

AVRDC - THE WORLD VEGETABLE CENTER (AVRDC)

and

Initials: AVRDC
Initials: [PARTNER]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

AVRDC - THE WORLD VEGETABLE CENTER (AVRDC)

and

THE PLANT BREEDERS UNION OF TURKEY (BISAB)

for research and development co-operation in alleviating poverty and malnutrition in the developing world through the increased production and consumption of nutritious and health-promoting vegetables

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THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”) is made on date/month/year

BETWEEN

- (1) AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center whose headquarters is at No. 60 Yi-Min Liao, Shanhua, Tainan, 74151, Taiwan ('AVRDC'); and
- (2) BISAB - The Plant Breeders Union of Turkey , whose headquarters is at Adakale Sok.22/12, Kızılay, Cankaya-Ankara /TURKEY ('BISAB').

[AVRDC] and [BISAB] are individually referred to as “Party”, and collectively as the “Parties”, and shall include respectively their permitted assigns or successors and successors in interest.

ARTICLE 1 – IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLES FOR THE POOR

- 1.1 Hunger is still significantly prevalent and for the first time in human history a larger proportion of the world’s population suffer from obesity than hunger. The resulting malnutrition is a major risk factor for various non-communicable diseases, posing heavy health burden on countries throughout the world.
- 1.2 To facilitate good health, overcome malnutrition and poverty for both the rural and urban poor, it is crucial to increase the production, quality, consumption and profitability of nutritious and health-promoting vegetables.
- 1.3 Vegetables provide the most important source of the micronutrients, fiber, vitamins and minerals essential for a balanced and healthy diet. They are also a major source of cash income for smallholder farmers.
- 1.4 However, in most countries of the world, production is too low to provide their populations with even the minimum intake required for good health. Where vegetables are produced, biotic and abiotic stresses constrain production and inappropriate postharvest management causes crops’ physical and nutritional losses. Problems also arise from unsafe vegetable production practices such as the chronic misuse of pesticides, use of grey water in production and in vegetable processing, and ineffective and unhygienic storage of vegetables that may encourage mycotoxin and bacterial contamination.
- 1.5 These challenges are the reasons why AVRDC and [PARTNER] intend to collaborate in the area of vegetable research and development.

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 AVRDC has as an expressed priority to support and greatly strengthen the efforts of national governments, the private sector, international, regional and local organisations, and farming communities, creating or capitalising on synergies and building on the different skills, knowledge, and resources of the community that designed strategies for vegetable research and development.
- 2.2 AVRDC focuses its research and development effort on (a) germplasm conservation, evaluation and utilization; (b) quality crop development; (c) profitable and safe

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vegetable production systems and postharvest management; (d) increasing access to, and utilization of nutritious vegetables for balanced diets.

- 2.3 **BISAB** has a strong interest in vegetable research and development and engages in vegetable research, technology or information dissemination, capacity building and/or policy formulation. **BISAB** is interested to collaborate with AVRDC, and to express its institutional priorities for future collaboration and in order to achieve the greatest synergy, efficiencies and effectiveness between **BISAB** and AVRDC.
- 2.4 Parties therefore intend to enter into this MOU to inform one another of their respective priorities and to consider the pursuit of future collaborations based on such priorities.

ARTICLE 3 – FUTURE JOINT ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING

- 3.1 Parties shall use their best endeavours to develop cooperative agreements for research, development and dissemination activities pursuant to the current priorities as contained in Appendix 1 of this MOU. Appendix 1 may be amended from time-to-time by the Parties to elaborate on any changes that may occur within the validity period of this MOU in order to inform one another of their respective research priorities.
- 3.2 Cooperative agreements subsequently developed between the Parties shall be formulated according to their respective mandates, target clients or beneficiaries, and institutional priorities. Notwithstanding this, Parties shall capitalise on their complementary skills and resources with a view to develop, adapt and disseminate research outputs that would otherwise be unattainable for any single institution.
- 3.3 In addition to the provision of resources, Parties agree to work collaboratively to raise funding for areas of mutual interest and shall inform each other of potential funding opportunities for joint activities. This may include sources of funding internationally and in-country where **BISAB** is located. Any such joint proposals would enable all Parties to manage funds.

ARTICLE 4 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 4.1 Parties shall strive to develop and disseminate outputs that are widely accessible and useful for the resource-poor in the developing world, whilst respecting the intellectual property rights of partners and third parties.
- 4.2 Future co-operative agreements signed by the Parties shall contain specific provisions and arrangements on intellectual property ownership, sharing and attribution that will aim at achieving the greatest impact possible for Parties' respective beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- 4.3 Germplasm exchange between the Parties will be managed in a manner consistent with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. All germplasm exchange and distribution shall be in accordance with all appropriate laws including quarantine, phytosanitary and/or biosafety laws that are currently applicable at the time of transfer.

ARTICLE 5 – DURATION

- 5.1 This MOU shall be valid for five (5) years from the date first above written and may be renewed by the Parties thereafter based on their mutual interest. Should it be necessary to terminate this MOU prematurely for any reason, the Party terminating the MOU shall discuss the reason for doing so with the others and provide one (1) month's written notice to the other Parties.
- 5.2 This MOU will not supersede or in any way modify existing and/or future agreements between all or some of the Parties to this MOU.
- 5.3 Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this MOU shall be settled amicably by negotiations between the Parties.

AGREED by the Parties through their authorized signatories in two (2) original copies:

For and on behalf of
**AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center
(AVRDC)**

For and on behalf of the
**The Plant Breeders' Union of Turkey
[BISAB],**

.....
Dr. J.D.H. KEATINGE
Director General

.....
Assoc.Prof. Yalcın KAYA
President

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APPENDIX 1
[BISAB PRIORITIES]

1. Exchange of genetic material, including gene bank accessions, improved breeding lines, and segregating populations following appropriate Material Transfer Agreements (MTA)
2. Biotechnology, including protocols for molecular markers and marker-assisted selection; molecular mapping traits of mutual interest; development of marker systems for vegetable crops;
3. Screening/evaluation protocols for diseases, insects, quality and nutrient contents
4. Integrated natural resource management- sustainable *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation.
5. Capacity building and training on vegetable research.
6. Vegetable genetic improvement according to changing needs of the stakeholders and responding to emerging production threats.