

AGREEMENT**BETWEEN****THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY****AND****THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL****ON COOPERATION****IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE**

the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the State of Israel, hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties",

Guided by the desire to develop mutually advantageous cooperation in the field of agriculture and agriculture-related fields,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The implementing agencies for the purposes of this Agreement shall be on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Turkey, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and on behalf of the Government of the State of Israel, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in various fields of agricultural research and development, taking into consideration the interests of the two countries.

The cooperation shall cover the following fields:

- a) Exchange of scientific and technical information and documentation;
- b) Exchange of research results published by their respective institutions;
- c) Exchange of genetic and biological material from plants and animals;
- d) Reciprocal exchange of experts in fields of interest to the two countries;

- e) Organization of training, seminars, conferences and meetings in the two countries;
- f) Exchange of information on irrigation and irrigation systems;
- g) Establishment of direct joint activities between their respective national institutions;
- h) Encouragement of joint ventures of cooperation in agricultural marketing between the private sector of the two countries and third country markets.

Article 3

In compliance with the objectives of this Agreement and in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, the Contracting Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between interested institutions of the two countries and the participation of one Contracting Party at international events in the field of agriculture held in the other Contracting Party's territory.

Article 4

A Joint Agricultural Steering Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") shall be established, comprised of representatives of the Contracting Parties, including the Head of delegation of each one of them. The Committee shall be assisted by experts and professionals on agreed subjects.

The functions of the Committee shall be:

- to specify details for the implementation of the Agreement
- to prepare working programmes for the on-coming period
- to monitor the realization of the specific programmes of cooperation
- to evaluate the progress achieved since the last session of the Committee
- to define the financial and administrative terms of the cooperation.

The Committee shall hold annual sessions, or as necessary, alternately in Turkey and Israel. The international travel expenses of the Committee shall be borne by the sending country and the local expenses (accommodation, local transportation, etc.), shall be borne by the host country.

Article 5

1. The Agreement is subject to approval or ratification in accordance with the internal legal procedures of the Contracting Parties and shall enter into force on the date of the second of the diplomatic Notes related to this approval or ratification.
2. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of five (5) years. Thereafter its validity shall be automatically extended for additional periods of five (5) years each, unless one of the Contracting Parties denounces it in writing, at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of the relevant period.

Article 6

The present Agreement may be amended or modified by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties. Any amendment or modification of the Agreement shall follow the same procedure as its entering into force (Article 5.1).

Done at Jerusalem on the 7th day of September 1998, which corresponds to the 16th day of Elul 5758, in two original copies, in the Turkish, Hebrew and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergency of interpretation the English text shall prevail.

For the Government
of the Republic of Turkey

For the Government
of the State of Israel