# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

on

# **Scientific Cooperation in Agriculture**

#### between

the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies of the Italian Republic

and

the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of Arab Republic of Egypt

The Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies and the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation hereinafter referred to as "the Parties";

Wishing to strengthen the already existing friendly relationships among the two countries through the development of scientific and technological cooperation in agriculture of both the countries;

Recalling the agreement signed in Cairo on September 3, 2007 between the Egyptian Minister for Agriculture and Land Reclamation Hon. Amin Ahmed Abaza and the Italian Minister for Agricultural and Forestry Policies Hon. Paolo De Castro, in the field of bilateral cooperation in the phitosanitary and agricultural sector;

Recalling the agreement on maritime sector signed on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 between the Egyptian Minister for Agriculture and Land Reclamation Hon. Amin Ahmed Abaza and the Italian Minister for Agricultural Food and Forestry Policies Luca Zaia to promote the mutual development of fishing industry as well as technical exchanges between the two Parties.

Affirming their interest to increase and expand cooperation in agriculture and agro-food sectors, the Parties agree that establishing cooperation in the field of agricultural will be beneficial for both countries.

Stressing the importance of promoting cooperation in the field of agriculture, which will include bilateral R&D in the field of agriculture, and a Working Program in the field of agricultural science, the Parties will entrust two people for each side as future contact points for all aspects of bilateral R&D activities.

Wishing to pursue their cooperation programs and to implement scientific and technological exchanges in agriculture and to commit themselves in the promotion of agro-food products with this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "Memorandum")

**HEREWITH agree as follows:** 

# **ARTICLE 1**

The two Parties will promote and support cooperation between their own research institutes on agricultural production, rural development, forestry, animal breeding, food quality and safety, plant

science, animal health, fisheries, energy in agriculture, biotechnology, food processing, fruit and vegetable production, agricultural engineering, food packaging, marketing distribution and storage, and other additional fields agreed by the Parties.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

The Parties, declare that all bilateral R&D programs in the field of agriculture will be financed by each Ministry, according to the allocated budget and following the respective national research rules. The Parties will exchange experts on agreed subjects. Traveling expenses will be borne by the Administration which they belong to.

## **ARTICLE 3**

The activities envisaged in this Memorandum will be implemented by the Parties under the exclusive competence of the Parties and in accordance with their respective national laws and international obligations and as far as Italian Party is concerned, obligation deriving from the participation to the European Union.

## **ARTICLE 4**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall have effect from the signature by the authorized representatives of the Contracting Parties, and shall remain in force for five (5) years from the date of signature, unless sooner terminated by either party upon six months written notice. This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified at any time by the written agreement of the parties and may be renewed for successive five (5) years periods by exchange of notes

Signed in Rome on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010, in two original copies in English language each of them being equally authentic.

Giancarlo Galan

MINISTER FÓR AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FORESTRY POLICIES

OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

Amin Abaza

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND LAND RECLAMATION

OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT