

Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Plant Quarantine between the Department of Plant Quarantine of the Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency of the Republic of Korea and the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of the Philippines

The Department of Plant Quarantine of the Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency of the Republic of Korea and the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of the Philippines (hereinafter referred to as the "Sides");

Desiring to further strengthen and develop cooperation in the field of plant quarantine in order to protect the territories of the two countries from the introduction and spread of plant pests and diseases; and

Taking into account the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the "SPS Agreement") and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plant Protection Convention (the "IPPC"),

Have reached the following understanding:

Paragraph 1 Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MOU") is, in the spirit of the SPS Agreement and the IPPC, to strengthen and develop bilateral cooperation in the field of plant quarantine based on related international standards, guidelines and recommendations.

Paragraph 2 Cooperation

The cooperation under this MOU may include:

(a) implementation of projects pertaining to plant quarantine cooperation;





- (b) exchange of visits of plant quarantine experts;
- (c) phytosanitary capacity evaluation and assistance and training in the protection of plants;
- (d) exchange of quarantine technologies;
- (e) portable inspection tools;
- (f) joint seminars and/or workshops;
- (g) information exchange; and
- (h) any other areas of cooperation in relation to plant quarantine that may be jointly decided upon by the Sides.

Paragraph 3 Contacts

- 1. The Sides will appoint coordinators to implement the cooperation under this MOU. The coordinators of the Sides will jointly establish and implement project plans each year and publish a final report following the completion of each project.
- 2. The Sides may communicate using telephone, fax, internet or email.

Paragraph 4 Expert Exchange

The Sides may exchange visits of experts in order to facilitate the cooperation under this MOU. The Sides will inform the coordinators at least thirty (30) days in advance of such exchanges, and the coordinators will make their best efforts to support the visits and the activities of the experts.

Paragraph 5 Expenses

Expenses incurred under this MOU will be borne as mutually decided through consultations between the Sides.

Paragraph 6 General Provisions

- 1. This MOU is not intended to create any legally binding obligations under international law.
- 2. This MOU will be carried out within the framework of the respective national laws and regulations of the two countries and subject to the availability of appropriated funds and personnel of the Sides.





Paragraph 7 Resolution of Differences

Any differences arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be resolved through consultations between the Sides.

Paragraph 8 Entry into Effect, Termination and Amendment

- 1. This MOU will come into effect on the date of signature and will remain in effect for a period of three (3) years.
- 2. Either Side may terminate this MOU by notifying the other Side in writing of its desire to terminate the MOU. The termination will take effect three (3) months following the receipt of the notice by the other Side.
- 3. This MOU may be amended with the mutual written consent of the Sides.

Signed in duplicate on the (25th) day of August, 2021, in the English language.

For the Department of Plant Quarantine of the Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency of the Republic of Korea For the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of the Philippines

Dr. Seo, Hyo Won

Director-General

Department of Plant Quarantine

Dr. George Y. Culaste

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