AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE
The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel hereafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties":

Considering that development in the field of agriculture shall be of mutual benefit to both countries,

Desirous of strengthening cooperation in the field of agriculture between the two countries,

Recognizing that such cooperation will promote further their already existing friendly relations,

Have agreed as follows:

Article - I

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in agricultural science and technology, including research, education, extension and training, development projects and joint ventures between companies or institutions of the two countries, through collaborative activities and exchanges, which they will determine and implement in conformity with the laws, regulations and policies of the Contracting Parties in both countries.

More specifically, the cooperation will include activities in the following fields:

a) Water and Soil Management, including optimal use of water; drip/sprinkler irrigation systems, development of groundwater resources; salinity and erosion control.

b) Arid and semi-arid crop production and other land based activities including sustainable agricultural methods, increasing of bio-mass availability and afforestation with special emphasis on commercial species.
c) **Fruit and vegetable production**, including development of hybrid seeds, green house and energy-saving technologies, development of marketing infrastructure for fruits and vegetables, wood and wood products.

d) **Post-harvest** and processing technologies, including the prevention of losses in grain storage.

e) **Plant and animal sciences**, including development of the dairy branch and introduction of high-yielding, low-input plant varieties.

f) **Plant protection and control**, including phytosanitary regulations.

g) **Veterinary science**, including development of fodders and leguminous species, prevention and control of infectious diseases, and improvement of livestock production.

h) **Agri business**.

i) **Farm mechanization and technology**.

j) **Agricultural training and extension**, including the exchange of visits of experts, scientists and technicians to research centres and experiment stations, as well as participation in seminars, conferences, and other professional events.

k) **Agricultural research**, collaborative activities in agricultural research will be determined by the Contracting Parties. Such activities will be in the form of an exchange of scientists for short and medium-term workshops on designated subjects, alternately in the respective countries, and joint research programmes.

l) **Agro-forestry and silvi-pastural practices**.
Article - II

The Contracting Parties shall promote short and medium-term cooperation within the framework of the joint activities cited in Article-I.

Biennial Work Plans will be prepared by mutual agreement between the two parties to realize the objectives of this Agreement.

Article - III

In order to set priorities and bring Articles-I and II to fruition, a three-four member Joint Committee comprised of representatives of both Contracting Parties shall be set up. The Joint Committee will provide guidance, review the progress of activities, facilitate bilateral cooperation and determine the financial aspects of the cooperation. It will meet once every two years, alternately in Israel and India, the date of the meetings to be arranged through the diplomatic channels.

The Joint Committee may appoint Working Groups in different areas/subjects and will have overall responsibility in supervising the activities of these groups.

Article - IV

Each Contracting Party shall designate an Executive Secretary who shall be responsible for coordinating and monitoring all activities carried out under the aegis of this Agreement. The Executive Secretaries will be permanent members of the Joint Committee of Agricultural Experts. They will maintain an ongoing correspondence to develop a Work Programme and coordinate administrative details.

Article - V

To generate broad interest, the Contracting Parties will encourage and facilitate the involvement of interested government ministries and
agencies as well as the scientific and agri-business communities in both countries, with the long-term goal being cooperation in the areas of research, extension, training, and identification of potential joint ventures.

Article - VI

The Contracting Parties agree that the international travel expenses of the members of the Joint Committee shall be borne by the sending Party and local hospitality costs shall be borne by the receiving Party.

Article - VII

Under the present Agreement the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Agriculture of the State of Israel will be designated as the coordinating offices.

Article - VIII

The present Agreement shall not affect in any way the Contracting Parties; commitments under existing bilateral Agreements with third States.

Article - IX

The present Agreement shall enter into force on completion of the internal legal procedures of the Contracting Parties and their notification to each other through diplomatic channel and shall remain valid for a period of five years.

It shall automatically be extended for a subsequent period of five years at a time unless either of the Contracting Parties gives to the
other, a written notice six months in advance, of its intention to terminate the Agreement from the date of its expiry. The termination of Agreement shall not affect the activities and the projects already in progress until completed.

Article - X

The Agreement may be modified or amended by mutual consent. Any amendment or modification of the Agreement shall follow the same procedure as its entering into force.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized thereto by the government of their respective countries have hereto signed this Agreement.

Done at New Delhi on this the 24th day of December, 1993, which corresponds to the 10th day of TEVET, 5754, in two originals, each in the Hebrew, Hindi 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 INDIA

(Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar)
Minister of Agriculture

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

(Yaakov Tsur)
Minister of Agriculture