



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

AND

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS the United States of America and the European Union have a long-standing relationship of mutual trust and cooperation; and

WHEREAS there are strong historical links between the people of the Republic of Lithuania and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture share numerous common agricultural interests; and

WHEREAS the strengthening of such relationships will enhance relations between the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Republic of Lithuania; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture aim to further strengthen their relationship;

NOW THEREFORE, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties", do hereby declare their intention to enhance agricultural cooperation.

### **I. DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION**

The Parties will promote:

1. The exchange of knowledge and best practices in organic farming, hemp sector, sustainable food systems, climate-smart agriculture, food safety, plant and animal health;
  - 1.1. Sharing experience in the field of organic farming, production of environmentally focused agricultural products;
  - 1.2. Providing information and consultation related to hemp sector;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name.

- 1.3. Dissemination of best practices on resilient food supply chains essential to sustainable food systems;
- 1.4. Sharing experience in approaching climate-smart agriculture to transform agri-food systems towards green and climate resilient practices;
- 1.5. Exchange of experience in soil improvement, addressing climate change, protection of nature, food safety;
- 1.6. Exchange of information and experience on the means, instruments and methods of control and guarantee of agricultural products quality and safety;
- 1.7. Exchanging experience in plant health and plant protection products control area;
- 1.8. Exchange of experience in the field of animal health and welfare;
- 1.9. Sharing experience in developing control policies and eradication of animal diseases;
- 1.10. Assistance on other activities related to the agricultural sectors that Parties agreed.
2. The exchange of bilateral business and officials missions on agriculture;
  - 2.1. Strengthening bilateral Lithuanian – the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relations by organizing agricultural business events, trade missions;
  - 2.2. Development of agricultural trade relations, promoting export, participating in trade exhibitions, shows and fairs for agriculture and food;
  - 2.3. Finding and establishing business contacts between Lithuanian and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agricultural business entities;
  - 2.4. Support with the assistance on organizing visits for official delegations from the Parties.

## **II. COOPERATION ON OTHER AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

The Parties share many additional common interests, across a wide range of industries. Collaboration in these additional sectors is to be pursued when and where practical and supported by mutual interest in research and economic growth opportunities.

The Parties intend to cooperate in areas that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The exchange of knowledge and best practices to increase productivity, efficiency, and sustainability in sectors of mutual interest,



2. The advancement of research and collaboration between universities or research institutes in sectors of mutual interest;
3. The exchange of knowledge and best practices in promoting innovative technologies related to these clusters.

**III. COMMENCEMENT, MODIFICATION, TERMINATION AND EXPIRATION**

This Memorandum of Understanding

1. Does not itself obligate or authorize the expenditure of any funds by the Parties. The Parties each intend to bear their own costs associated with the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Does not create any obligations between the Parties under either international or domestic law.
3. May be modified by the mutual written consent of the Parties. Modifications will take effect from the date of the latest signature on the exchange of notes.
4. Commences upon the date of signing and will expire five years following the commencement.
5. May be terminated by either Party by giving at least 6 (six) months' prior written notification to the other Party of such intention.
6. Termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the completion of any existing activities, projects or other cooperation already agreed by the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding.

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is signed in Kutztown on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 in duplicate in the English language.

<p>For the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania</p> <p><i>Kęstutis Navickas</i></p> <p>Kęstutis Navickas Minister of Agriculture Republic of Lithuania</p>	<p>For the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture</p> <p><i>Russell C. Redding</i></p> <p>Russell C. Redding Secretary of Agriculture Pennsylvania</p>
--	--