

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between the

**MAHRATTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRIES AND AGRICULTURE,
Pune - India**

Along with

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURE & FOOD ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(NAFARI), Pune – India**

**Promoted by: MCCIA and COFIT, supported by: Ministry of Food Processing Industries
(GOI), France, SIDBI, NABARD and UNIDO**

AND

**MANITOBA AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL INITIATIVES, (M AFRI)
THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, CANADA**

Along with

Food Development Centre (FDC)

Objective:

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries & Agriculture (MCCIA) in association with National Agriculture, Food Analysis and Research Institute (NAFARI) and MAFRI share the common aims of developing the agriculture and food business in their regions through various activities related to Information, Research, Technology, Human Resources, Business Strategy and Networking.

Principle:

Recognizing the goals of the organizations as being common, this memorandum is to formalize a process of cooperation and understanding between the respective organizations. A working relationship will allow the respective organizations to share common experiences and solutions to achieve common goals.

Scope:

The basis of this agreement will be structured upon the primary areas as follows -

- a) Having common goals the respective organizations will explore opportunities of using the strengths of each partner to achieve their aims for their respective communities.
- b) The Organization will form a joint committee to act as the liaison between the respective organizations to implement this memorandum.

Based on the opportunities in both the regions it is proposed to investigate the feasibility of setting up agriculture/food Logistics chain and hubs at Pune and Winnipeg to service the movement of products between the regions / markets of North America and Western India.

c) A link between NAFARI and MAFRI will ensure the development of the Technical related aspects of the collaboration, and in particular:

1. Tie up of NAFARI with MAFRI and a suitable Certified Testing Service

Agency from NAFARI for:

- a) Analytical services
- b) Standards and testing procedures
- c) Training Personnel
- d) Marketing and Communications

2. Tie up between NAFARI and MAFRI organizations, including FDC and others, including a recognized Accredited Institution, for certified Technical and Managerial Training in India:

(A) Food processing and Safety / Hygiene for

- (a) Post agriculture production
- (b) Processing
- (c) QA
- (d) Engineering production systems
- (e) Procurement and Marketing Management

(B) Restaurant and Catering services

- (a) Production Systems
- (b) Techno-economic development

(C) Food Projects and Engineering Services

- (a) Design and Engineering
- (b) Equipment
- (c) Systems design (like steam, water, effluent control, process control and instrumentation, etc)
- (d) Training on International standards and regulation regarding trade in North America
- (e) Trainers' training or On-Site Training at a suitable institution in the Pune or Manitoba region
- (f) Others

3. Link between NAFARI and a pool of Canadian Organizations to set up pilot Plants as a facility dedicated to host innovative technology related to the food sector, perform technology transfer activities, test processes and equipment on a scale large enough to make economic assessment and serve local industry for its own product and process innovations.

4. Collaborative efforts between NAFARI and Canadian Organizations including MAFRI for providing Project engineering and technical services:

- (a) Project formulation
- (b) Planning and Control
- (c) Procurement and selection
- (d) Implementation
- (e) Commissioning and Upgrading

5. Collaborative efforts on Joint Project development right from Contract Agriculture to food processing to address Global and Indian Market.
 - a) A Collaboration between Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA), the Province of Manitoba, MAFRI with the technical back up by NAFARI and FDC will ensure the development of Marketing and Promotion activities, as follows:
 6. MAFRI will provide the MCCIA and NAFARI with Marketing and Distribution assistance for Indian agriculture and food products through identifying marketing and distribution agents in North America.
 7. MCCIA and NAFARI will coordinate with MAFRI to provide the required assistance for importation of food products and equipment from North America into India for Marketing, Branding, Distribution, Processing/packaging, etc.
 8. MCCIA and NAFARI will coordinate with MAFRI for the organization of seminars, symposia, buyer/seller meets. All the partners will be involved in:
 - a) Exchange of information to enhance bilateral trade and technology transfer and opportunities for joint ventures between the two regions and also facilitate exchange of delegations for the benefit of entrepreneurs, researchers, academics and technocrats between India and Italy.
 - b) Networking with public and private financing bodies.
 - c) Providing assistance in identifying and using public and private funding available for business innovation, research and development projects and develop relations with Venture Capital, Investment Banks and Business Angels.
 - d) Identify funding mechanism for each of the project/activity jointly. Efforts will also be made to access global developmental funding.

Communications & Financial aspects:

All external communications relating to promotion of activities of the memorandum will be done with mutual consent of the committee.

Activities inscribed in the memorandum will be actively promoted in North America and India for ensuring success.

Any financial aspects related to the organization of the various activities and the break up of the expenses will be mutually agreed upon by the partners on a case by case basis.

Validity:

The Memorandum will take effect on the date of signature. It will remain initially for a period of three years. It may be renewed thereafter by mutual consent. However, should either party decide to terminate this memorandum, prior to the completion of three years, the same may be amicably decided by the participating organizations by giving a written notice of 3 months from either side. Their joint decision in this regard will be final.

No party shall take recourse to Law Courts and in case any dispute or difference arising between the parties the same shall be settled mutually. In case no such settlement is arrived at, the same shall be referred jointly to the President MCCIA and Deputy Minister, MAFRI their decision in the matter shall be final and binding for all the parties.

Signed, Sealed and delivered:

“Original Signed By”

G A Sathe, Vice President

Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture, Pune, India

“Original Signed By”

Ajay Mehta, Member of the Governing Council

National Agriculture and Food Analysis and Research Institute

And

“Original Signed By”

Minister Rosann Wowchuk

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Government of Manitoba

On Thursday 13 December 2007 at Pune - India