

In the name of God

**Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation
Between
The Ministry of Agriculture Jihad of the Islamic Republic of Iran
And
The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development of Portuguese Republic
In the Field of Animal Health and Veterinary**

Preamble

The Ministry of Agriculture Jihad of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development of Portuguese Republic, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"; desiring to cooperate in the field of animal health and veterinary, Agreed as follows:

Article 1: Scope

The scope of this M.O.U will be mutual cooperation in order to control, prevent and eradicate as well as promote Surveillance and Monitoring System of terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases and facilitate the trade in goods referred to in the terrestrial and aquatic animal health Code Books of World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) hereinafter referred to as "the Code Books".

Article 2: Definitions

The terms used in this M.O.U shall have the same meaning as they have in the latest version of the Code books.

Article 3: Competent Authorities

Iran Veterinary Organization, Ministry of Agriculture Jihad of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the relevant organization are the competent authorities for implementation of this M.O.U.

Article 4: Exchange of information

1. The Parties may, in addition to sending disease reports forms according to the guidelines referred to in the Code Books, directly exchange the information.
2. The Parties may try to promote the bilateral cooperation between their research and scientific centers in the field of control, prevention and eradication of diseases referred to in the Code Books and shall not provide the third party, of the obtained results and information there from without the other Party's consent. Also, they may provide each other, on the request, mutual assistance pursuant to further mutual arrangements and agreements.
3. The Parties try to inform each other of new scientific, research and technical achievements in field of control, prevention and eradication of diseases referred to in the Code Books. The holder of these achievements shall benefit the legal support of intellectual property rights in the territory of the other Party.

Article 5: Import, Export and Transit Requirements

will be complied with sanitary, |1. Import, export and transit of goods referred to this M.O.U quarantine and laboratory diagnosis guidelines agreed upon by both parties.

2. Import of goods referred to this M.O.U into the territory of either Party shall be subject to obtaining an initial permit from the competent authority of the importing Contracting Party. These permits shall include sanitary import requirements written in the language of the importing country and if it is requested in English.

3. The competent authority of exporting Party shall acknowledge the fulfillment of sanitary requirements of the importing Party by issuing the veterinary health certificate in English that will certify the compliance of the certificate with the requirements provided by the importing party. The original copy of the issued veterinary health certificate will be accompanied the consignment in order to be presented to veterinary inspectors of importing Party in Border Inspection Posts.

4. The transit of goods referred to this M.O.U through the territory of either Party shall be implemented upon obtaining previous permit from their competent authorities and after submitting the original copy of the veterinary health certificate issued by the competent authorities of origin country.

Article 6: Special requirements for import and preventive activities

The Parties may:

1. To seek special requirements for importation of the goods referred to this M.O.U.
2. To ban the importation of the goods referred to this M.O.U in case of non- observance of the said special requirements.
3. To determine the authorized import border points for the goods referred to this M.O.U and to inform the other Party thereof.
4. Upon goods arrival, the inspectors at Veterinary Inspection Posts will check the documents and inspect the consignment conducting organoleptic tests and if required performing sampling and laboratory tests
5. In case of establishment of contamination of imported consignments to human and animal health threatening disease agents, to return and to inform the other Party of the case in written and indicating the reasons and documents.

Article 7: Joint Measures

The competent authorities of the Parties may, in specific cases and by previous agreement, take joint measures including surveillance over, inspection, examination and laboratory research of the goods referred to this M.O.U. The facilities, equipments and conveniences required for taking the above measures in the territory of either Party shall be rendered to the other Party by the expense of importing Party.

Article 8: Relation to other agreements

This M.O.U and its executive arrangements will not prejudice the performance of obligations arising out of the other international, multilateral or bilateral agreements which have been or will be signed and approved by the Parties.

Article 9: Disputes settlement

Any divergence in interpretation or performance of this M.O.U will be settled through negotiations between the competent authorities of the Parties and through diplomatic channels.

Article10: Amendments

The provisions and the scope of application of this M.O.U may be supplemented or amended subject to formal consent in writing by both Parties.

Article11: Entry into force and termination

This M.O.U enters into force upon the signature of the two sides for a period of 5 years. It shall be automatically extended for another period of 5 years, unless one of the sides denounces it in writing through diplomatic channels at least 6 months before the termination of the respective validity period.

This M.O.U comprising of a Preamble and 11 Articles was made in, on, 1394 (corresponding to, 2016) in two original copies in Persian, Portuguese and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

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