#### MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN

# THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES OF JAPAN AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

#### ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants"),

**DESIRING** to enhance the existing friendly relationship between the two countries through cooperation in the field of agriculture; and

**TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION** the importance of cooperation in agricultural and rural development for promoting sustainable development that will consequently help in raising the standard of living of their peoples;

Have confirmed the following matters:

# Paragraph 1 Objective

On the basis of the principles of mutual benefit and equality, the Participants will strengthen and advance cooperation in the field of agriculture in line with the prevailing laws, rules and regulations in their respective countries.

# Paragraph 2 Scope and Areas of Cooperation

The Participants will promote cooperation in the following areas:

- a. exchange of information on agricultural and rural development policies;
- b. technical partnerships and the exchange of experts to promote the agricultural and rural development;
- c. agricultural development with the aim of ensuring food security;
- d. Public-private cooperation for creation of environment to facilitate investment and trade in the food and agricultural sector;
- e. promotion of exchanges by the public and private sectors;
- f. cooperation in the field of agricultural research for plant genetic resources; and
- g. any other areas of mutual interest as may be jointly determined by the Participants.

#### **Joint Committee on Agriculture**

- 1. With a view to coordinating bilateral cooperation in the application of this Memorandum of Cooperation, the Participants will establish a Joint Committee on Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee").
- 2. The Committee will develop detailed cooperation programs for the areas of cooperation described in Paragraph 2 of this Memorandum and monitor the application of this Memorandum.
- 3. The Committee will consist of co-chairpersons at the level of representing the respective Participants for the areas of cooperation described in Paragraph 2 of this Memorandum, and could invite representative from public, private and research sector, as necessary.
- 4. The Committee meetings will be held, principally, alternately in Japan and the Republic of Kazakhstan, as necessary. The date, venue (including online, if needed) and agenda will be jointly decided between the Participants.

# Paragraph 4 Funding

- 1. Each Participant will bear the costs of its participation in the joint committee for agriculture under this Memorandum.
- 2. The application of this Memorandum will be in line with the availability of appropriated funds and personnel of the Participants.
- 3. The conduct of activities under this Memorandum will be funded as jointly determined by the Participants and will be subject to the availability of funds and other resources of the Participants.

### Paragraph 5 Modification

This Memorandum may be modified, as may be required from time to time, by mutual written consent of the Participants.

# Paragraph 6 Intellectual Property Rights

- 1. The allocation of the ownership of intellectual property rights arising out of any activity carried out under this Memorandum will be determined on a case-by-case basis in line with the applicable domestic laws and international agreements to which the two countries are parties.
- 2. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, a Participant will own intellectual property rights in respect of any technological development which was solely and separately developed by that Participant.

# Paragraph 7 Participation in Similar Activities

Nothing in this Memorandum will restrict the Participants from participating in similar activities with other public or private organizations,

# Paragraph 8 Dispute Resolution

Any differences arising out of the application of this Memorandum will be settled amicably by consultations or negotiations between the Participants

#### Paragraph 9 Status

This Memorandum is not an international treaty within the meaning of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of May 23, 1969 and does not provide for the rights and obligations of the Participants and their states governed by international law.

## Paragraph 10 Commencement, Duration and Discontinuation

- 1. The cooperation under this Memorandum will commence on the date of signature.
- 2. The cooperation under this Memorandum will continue for a period of five (5) years. It may be extended for an additional period of five (5) years by mutual consent of the Participants.
- 3. Each Participant may cease this Memorandum by prior notice in writing to be delivered to the other Participants not less than six (6) months prior to the intended discontinuation date.
- 4. The discontinuation of this Memorandum will not affect any ongoing activities and programs under this Memorandum, unless the Participants jointly decide otherwise.

Signed in duplicate at Tokyo, on 18<sup>th</sup>, December 2025, and Astana, on 10<sup>th</sup>, December 2025, in the English.

FOR
THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND
FISHERIES OF JAPAN

FOR
THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN