



## COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ORGANISMO INTERNACIONAL REGIONAL DE SANIDAD AGROPECUARIA (OIRSA) AND THE NORTH AMERICAN PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION (NAPPO)

The Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA), represented by its Executive Director, Guillermo Enrique Alvarado Downing and the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), represented by its Executive Director, Ian McDonell,

### CONSIDERING THAT:

**OIRSA** and **NAPPO** are regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) recognized by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC);

**OIRSA** and **NAPPO** have similar missions with regard to plant protection and the facilitation of international trade;

**OIRSA** and **NAPPO** have members in common, represent border regions with high rates of movement of goods and people which implies a higher level of risk of inter-regional spread of quarantine pests and, consequently, higher needs for coordination towards effective protection of their natural resources without affecting trade or the movement of people;

**OIRSA** and **NAPPO** have collaborated in the past on a few projects; however, there is no mechanism to assure joint work or collaboration between the two RPPOs;

An agreement between **OIRSA** and **NAPPO** would favour the exchange of technical information and the training of its personnel as well as that of the national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) of their member countries, avoid or reduce cross-border spread of regulated pests, improve the control of these pests, and facilitate interregional trade.

### AGREE TO:

Collaborate in order to facilitate safe interregional movement of plants, their products and other regulated articles and to control quarantine and regulated non-quarantine pests of interest to the member countries of both organizations.

## **Article One: Objectives**

- a) Promote the exchange of knowledge and information through meetings, scientific and technical workshops as well as other events related to plant protection and facilitate the participation of both organizations and their member countries in these events;
- b) Facilitate technical cooperation in plant protection among the countries of both organizations and encourage them to implement international standards for phytosanitary measures;
- c) Coordinate and support harmonized phytosanitary actions against quarantine and regulated non-quarantine pests of interregional interest;
- d) When necessary, cooperate in the development of joint phytosanitary campaigns for the eradication and control of pests;
- e) Provide the conditions for technical cooperation with other nearby regional organizations, such as those of the Caribbean.

## **Article Two: Areas for Cooperation**

Both organizations commit to:

- a) Identify and evaluate the technical needs in their member countries, for example:
  - preparation of phytosanitary standards for the protection of plants and facilitation of interregional trade;
  - development of an interregional alert system on regulated pests;
  - control of quarantine and regulated non-quarantine pests of interregional economic importance.
- b) Organize two annual meetings either face-to-face or remotely to discuss and follow-up on the joint work programme;
- c) Work together on the organization and promotion of workshops, symposia and other events that contribute to the control, suppression and eradication of quarantine pests in our regions;
- d) Exchange information on phytosanitary requirements currently in force in the member countries of both organizations applied to commodities in the interregional trade;
- e) Support the preparation and development of phytosanitary programs on pests of economic interregional importance;
- f) Implement an interregional alert system for regulated pests;
- g) Develop joint standards against regulated pests of interregional importance, harmonize and establish equivalencies between regional standards of mutual interest already published or to be published;

- h) Provide administrative personnel and experts for the organization, development and implementation of the activities of mutual interest;
- i) Share annual or biannual workplans and offer the opportunity to participate as observers in the Working Groups/Panels and Executive Committees when appropriate.

**Article Three: Contributions of the contracting parties**

Both organizations will contribute human, financial and technical resources according to the rules, policies and availability of each organization.

**Article Four: Coordination**

The Executive Directors of NAPPO and OIRSA will be in charge of leading the identification of joint activities and will prepare an annual work plan;

The Executive Directors of NAPPO and OIRSA will invite participation at each other's annual meeting or Executive Committee meetings to promote collaboration at the highest level within their organizations.

**Article Five: Reciprocity**

Both parties will recognize the contribution of the other in publications, reports, working or study documents or any other material used for the communication of their joint activities.

**Article Six: Effective date, duration and amendments**

This Cooperative Agreement is effective on the date of its signature and for a period of two years, unless one of the parties notifies the other officially of its decision to revoke the agreement;

This Cooperative Agreement will be extended automatically for another two years, unless one of the parties notifies in writing its decision not to extend;

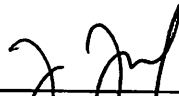
This Cooperative Agreement may be amended or expanded by mutual accord.

In witness of, the authorized representatives of the parties sign two authentic and equivalent versions of the agreement in English and Spanish.

Signed in: Merida, Yucatan, Mexico on Wednesday, October 19, 2011.


For the North American Plant Protection Organization

Por el Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ian McDonnell  
Executive Director  
NAPPO

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Guillermo Enrique Alvarado Downing  
Director Ejecutivo  
OIRSA

WITNESS:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Javier Trujillo Arriaga  
NAPPO Executive Committee Chairperson, Mexico  
OIRSA Member