

Administrative Arrangement

Between

**the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European
Commission**

and

the United States Department of Agriculture

on

reinforcing the dialogue and enhancing collaboration on agricultural challenges

Agriculture is an increasingly complex activity, requiring extensive access to information, data and knowledge sharing. This development will only accelerate as agriculture is confronted with the challenge of sustainably securing the availability of enough, affordable and nutritious food for an ever growing world population. In this context, **the Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture** (the Sides) are of the view that reinforcing their current communication channels on global agricultural challenges would be beneficial for both Sides.

I PURPOSE

By the present initiative, the Sides intend to further develop their collaborative and cooperative efforts for the exchange of knowledge and information and promote mutual understanding and trust in the field of the global agricultural challenges. The Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture intend to deepen their communication channels to strengthen the exchange of information.

The Administrative Arrangement is not intended to create rights or obligations under international or domestic law and does not have any financial implications on either side.

II AREAS OF ACTION AND TYPES OF ACTIVITY

The main areas of interest for the purpose of this Administrative Arrangement are as follows:

- **Sustainability and agriculture** - Ways to enhance or recognize sustainability in various agricultural production systems, sustaining vibrant rural communities, resource management, conserve the environment and foster biodiversity, conservation, research and innovation and other related issues.
- **Climate and agriculture** - Approaches to improving greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, carbon sequestration, climate adaptation strategies/improving climate resilience of agricultural production systems, research and innovation and other related issues.
- **Agri-food exchanges** - Food systems resilience, communication, production food supply chains, and other related issues.

It is intended that the topics within each area of interest covered by this Administrative Arrangement should be decided upon annually by both Sides and set out in an annual program.

The Sides consider to engage in the following:

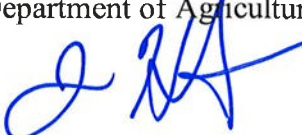

- Exchange of information regarding policies and regulations, governance models, and other related issues;

- Joint activities such as the organisation of and participation in seminars, workshops, and meetings to share information and practices, reach out to key stakeholders, and promote ties between the agricultural sectors of both Sides;
- Visits and exchanges to agricultural sites and facilities involving producers, policymakers, regulators, academic institutions, communities and businesses and civil society;
- Cooperate on sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, consider varying approaches to common goals and promote mutual understanding;
- Facilitate exchanges on programs that support rural and underserved communities and their sustainable development, including through innovation and applied research;
- Identify opportunities for collaboration to raise climate and environmental ambition in agriculture and land use through research and innovation; and
- Other activities envisaged by both Sides and pertaining to the purpose of this Administrative Arrangement.

Through regular meetings, senior participants will note progress and steer the dialogue. The Sides intend to appoint a number of contact persons who will be responsible for coordinating matters relating to this Administrative Arrangement.

Collaboration may continue until the Sides agree that the objectives of this Administrative Arrangement have been achieved or until one Side discontinues its participation.

III SIGNED in the ENGLISH language

<p>Deputy Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, United States Department of Agriculture</p>  <p>Date 3 November 2021</p>	<p>Deputy Director General of Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission</p>  <p>Date November 3, 2021</p>
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