THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN AND THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Terms of Reference

The American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO), hereby establish a Consultative Committee on Agriculture (CCA) that recognizes the importance of the agricultural and food sectors of the economies of the territories of the authorities represented by AIT and TECRO in order to initiate an ongoing process that emphasizes effective cooperation and coordination on agricultural matters.

Article I

Purposes

The purposes of the CCA are as follows:

- 1. To provide a senior-level forum to strengthen agricultural relations between AIT and TECRO through cooperation and coordination;
- To facilitate discussion and cooperation on matters related to the agricultural sectors
 of the territories of the authorities represented by AIT and TECRO, including, but
 not limited to:
 - A. Agricultural trade issues;
 - B. Agricultural marketing and regulation:
 - C. Agricultural research, technology, and technical exchange; and
 - D. Agricultural international sanitary and phytosanitary and food safety issues.
- 3. To review agriculture policy and program priorities of the Parties for consideration where appropriate; and
- 4. With respect to agricultural matters, to encourage and facilitate the development of direct contacts and cooperation between private entities, universities, research centers, institutes, agencies of the authorities represented by AIT and TECRO, and other entities in the territories of the authorities represented by AIT and TECRO.

Article II

Composition

- 1. AIT and TECRO (hereinafter referred to as "Co-Chairs") will co-chair the CCA.
- 2. The CCA is to consist of the AIT and TECRO Co-chairs and such other representatives from the respective designated representatives of AIT and TECRO as each Co-Chair may appoint from time-to-time as members for their respective side. Each Co-Chair will endeavor to inform the other of appointments to the CCA.
- 3. Co-Chairs may, respectively, each appoint a Vice Co-Chair from AIT and TECRO to act for the Co-Chairs.
- 4. Each AIT and TECRO Co-Chair should designate a point of contact from the respective designated representatives of AIT and TECRO for the purposes of communication and organization of administrative staff support for the CCA, and coordinating the activities of the CCA.

Article III

Meetings of the CCA

- 1. The CCA will endeavor to meet once a year, as appropriate unless the Parties agree otherwise.
- 2. The Co-Chairs will establish the dates, locations, times, procedures, and agenda of meetings. The Co-Chair of the hosting Party will conduct that meeting.
- 3. All recommendations or determinations of the CCA will be subject to the concurrence of the Co-Chairs.
- 4. Each Party will alternately host the CCA annually. The host for a meeting will provide administrative support for that meeting, including interpretative services.

Article IV

Working Groups

- 1. The Co-Chairs may establish, as necessary, working groups to conduct such activities as the Co-Chairs determine serve the purposes of the CCA.
- 2. Working groups may meet independently of the CCA.
- 3. Working groups are expected to report to the CCA as determined by the CCA.

4. Either Co-Chair may discontinue a working group upon written notification and concurrence by the other Co-Chair.

Article V

Records

The records and written reports of each CCA meeting and meetings of each working group should be in both the English and Chinese languages.

Article VI

Limitations

- 1. The functions and activities of the CCA and any working group established under Article IV are subject to the availability of funds and personnel available to support the participation of each Party and their designated representatives.
- 2. These Terms of Reference do not create any binding obligations or commitments under any provision of international or domestic law.

Article VII

Review

These Terms of Reference may be modified in writing by the Parties.

Signed in Washington, D.C. on 2007, July 10th in the English language.

Ms. Barbara J. Schrage

Managing Director

American Institute in Taiwan

Dr. Jaushieh Joseph

Representative

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative

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