



**TREATY SERIES 2013**  
**Nº 5**

**Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural and Fisheries  
Cooperation between the Department of Agriculture, Food and  
the Marine of Ireland and the Ministry of Agriculture of the  
People's Republic of China**

Done at Beijing on 16 April 2012

Entered into force on 16 April 2012

Presented to Dáil Éireann by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES  
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD  
AND THE MARINE OF IRELAND AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF  
THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

Having regard to the Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, formally known as the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of Ireland (hereinafter referred to as “the two participants”), of 25 September 2006 and the Action Plan on Mutual Co-operation Mechanisms between Ireland and China in the Agri Food and Fisheries Sector of 28 May 2011, for the purpose of developing and strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation and friendly relations, facilitating and boosting economic, scientific, technological and trade cooperation in the agricultural and fisheries sectors, between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, the two participants have decided as follows:

**Paragraph 1**

The two participants may carry out cooperation in the following fields:

- (i) Quality and safety management of agricultural and food products, including seafood products. The two participants may establish mechanisms for experts to communicate and exchange research information, experience in quality and safety management of agricultural and food products, including seafood products, as well as laws, regulations, technical standards and testing methods, in order to promote bilateral trade in such products.
- (ii) Livestock industry. This may include cooperation in livestock breed improvement, animal husbandry and feeding and the development of new varieties of forage grass.
- (iii) Veterinary service. The two participants may establish a bilateral communication mechanism to discuss major issues and bilateral cooperation in the field of animal health. Issues related to animal health and trade of livestock, meat and animal products may be discussed and addressed within this framework. The two participants may carry out personnel training and exchanges between their veterinary organisations. Cooperation will be strengthened in animal disease risk management, labelling of animal products and traceability, management of veterinary laboratories, and veterinary research.
- (iv) Dairy cooperation. Efforts will be made to strengthen cooperation in dairy cattle farming, breeding technology, quality and safety of dairy products, dairy processing and personnel training.
- (v) Efforts will be made to promote cooperation between industry organisations in the agricultural sector to facilitate the exchange of information on the functions and operation of such organisations in order to benefit from their managerial experience.

- (vi) Education: In the case of both the agriculture and fisheries areas, the two participants will engage in mutual co-operation in the fields of education and work placement which may include the invitation of qualified officials to participate in educational courses including, but not limited to such courses as outlined in the Action Plan on Mutual Co-operation Mechanisms between Ireland and China in the Agri Food and Fisheries Sector of 28 May 2011.
- (vii) Timely exchange of viewpoints and positions on WTO agriculture negotiations.

### **Paragraph 2**

DAFF may provide short term placements for officials of MoA in agreed areas of specialisations as outlined in the Action Plan on Mutual Co-operation Mechanisms between Ireland and China in the Agri Food and Fisheries Sector of 28 May 2011, or as may be determined appropriate by the two participants.

### **Paragraph 3**

The two participants may carry out agricultural cooperation through the following approaches:

- (i) Exchange information, documentary materials, professional publications and research results.
- (ii) Exchange experts and delegations.
- (iii) Organise training courses, workshops and various meetings to discuss agricultural technologies of mutual interest.
- (iv) Encourage bilateral agri-business cooperation and exchanges.
- (v) Other forms of cooperation jointly decided by the two participants in written form.

### **Paragraph 4**

In addition to ongoing informal contacts and to facilitate execution of the MOU, high-level officials of the two participants may meet every two years, to review cooperation outcomes, discuss priority areas for cooperation, and map out future projects.

### **Paragraph 5**

The cooperative scope and modalities listed in the MOU will be the framework for the two participants to carry out their cooperation activities and be subject to examination and alteration by joint decision of the two participants.

### **Paragraph 6**

In relation to the expenses of exchange visits by experts and delegations, the sending participant will cover such costs as travelling, board and lodging as well as required

insurances (including medical and accident insurance) for their experts and delegation members. The schedule, timing and any other arrangements necessary for such exchange visits must be agreed in writing by both participants at least one month prior to the arrival of any experts or delegation.

Each of the two participants will bear its own costs incurred in implementing this MOU. Implementation costs of some special projects may be settled through separate consultation and arrangement between the two participants including, where agreed, the provision of bursaries, under the Action Plan on Mutual Cooperation between Ireland and China in the Agri-food and Fisheries Sectors of 28 May, 2011, if necessary.

### **Paragraph 7**

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of signature by the two participants and continue to have effect for five years except those provisions incorporated from the Action Plan on Mutual Cooperation Mechanisms between the two participants in the Agri Food and Fisheries Sector, commitments under which remain valid for a period of two years from the date of signature of that Action Plan unless extended or renewed by agreement. Any renewal of the MOU beyond the five year period will be jointly decided in writing by the two participants, at least six months before its expiry date.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be altered or supplemented by joint decision of both participants in writing.

Signed in duplicate on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2012 in Beijing in both Chinese and English, both texts being equally valid.

Ministry of Agriculture  
People's Republic of China

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine  
Ireland

## Annex II

### **Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation between the Department of Agriculture and Food of Ireland and the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China**

The Department of Agriculture and Food of Ireland and the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the two participants"), for the purpose of developing and strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation and friendly relations, facilitating and boosting economic, scientific, technological and trade cooperation in the agricultural sector, between the two countries, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, have decided as follows:

#### **Paragraph 1**

The two participants may carry out agricultural cooperation in the following fields:

- (i) Quality and safety management of agricultural and food products. The two participants may establish mechanisms for experts to communicate and exchange research information, experience in quality and safety management of agricultural and food products as well as laws, regulations, technical standards and testing methods, in order to promote bilateral trade in such products.
- (ii) Livestock industry. This may include cooperation in livestock breed improvement, animal husbandry and feeding and the development of new varieties of forage grass.
- (iii) Veterinary service. The two participants may establish a bilateral communication mechanism to discuss major issues and bilateral cooperation in the field of animal health. Issues related to animal health and trade of livestock, meat and animal products may be discussed and addressed within this framework. The two participants may carry out personnel training and exchanges between their veterinary organisations. Cooperation will be strengthened in BSE risk management, management of animal diseases, labelling of animal products and traceability.
- (iv) Dairy cooperation. Efforts will be made to strengthen cooperation in dairy cattle farming, breeding technology, quality and safety of dairy products, dairy processing and personnel training.
- (v) Efforts will be made to promote cooperation between industry organisations in the agricultural sector to facilitate the exchange of information on the functions and operation of such organisations in order to benefit from their managerial experience.
- (vi) Timely exchange of viewpoints and positions on WTO agriculture negotiations.

## **Paragraph 2**

The two participants may carry out agricultural cooperation through the following approaches:

- (i) Exchange information, documentary materials, professional publications and research results.
- (ii) Exchange experts and delegations.
- (iii) Organise training courses, workshops and various meetings to discuss agricultural technologies of mutual interest.
- (iv) Encourage bilateral agri-business cooperation and exchanges.
- (v) Other forms of cooperation jointly decided by the two participants in written form.

## **Paragraph 3**

The cooperative scope and modalities listed in the MOU will be the framework for the two participants to carry out their cooperation activities and be subject to examination and alteration by joint decision of the two participants.

## **Paragraph 4**

In relation to the expenses of exchange visits by experts and delegations, the sending participant will cover such costs as travelling, board and lodging as well as required insurances (including medical and accident insurance) for their experts and delegation members. The schedule, timing and any other arrangements necessary for such exchange visits must be agreed in writing by both participants at least one month prior to the arrival of any experts or delegation. Each of the two participants will bear its own costs incurred in implementing this MOU. Implementation costs of some special projects may be settled through separate consultation and arrangement between the two participants, if necessary.

## **Paragraph 5**

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of signature by the two participants and continue to have effect for five years. Any renewal of the MOU beyond that period will be jointly decided in writing by the two participants, at least six months before its expiry date.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be altered or supplemented by joint decision of both participants in writing.

Signed in duplicate in Dublin on 25 September 2006, in both Chinese and English, both texts being equally valid.

## **Annex III**

### **Action plan on Mutual Cooperation Mechanisms between Ireland and China in The Agri Food and Fisheries Sector**

Having regard to the Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China and the Department of Agriculture and Food of Ireland, signed on 26 September 2006, for the development of enhanced cooperation in relation to agricultural economy, science and trade, both sides have reached the following agreement:

#### **Article I**

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) will provide a short term placement of 4-6 weeks duration for up to 2 officials of the Ministry of Agriculture of China (MoA). For the placement, DAFF will provide a bursary amounting to €5000 for each official, contingent on the successful applicants each presenting a report to DAFF at the conclusion of the placement. Work experience could be selected from the following specialisations:

- 1) Animal traceability and veterinary controls
- 2) Animal health status, in particular BSE
- 3) Meat and meat products
- 4) Animal feedstuffs
- 5) Dairy and dairy products
- 6) Pesticides
- 7) Fish and fishery products (Shellfish Safety Laboratory)

#### **Article II**

DAFF will invite one official of MoA with a primary degree in veterinary science to undertake a one-academic-year web based certificate course in veterinary public health offered by University College Dublin. This certificate is recognised by the EU. The bursary, to a maximum value of €7,500, provided by DAFF will support the costs of registration for the course and will contribute to supporting the candidate whilst undertaking a work placement in Ireland at the conclusion of the course (8-12 weeks duration). The work placement will contribute to the project papers which the official will have to submit to UCD at the conclusion of the placement and he/she may also apply for a post graduate course at MSc level following from the Certificate course.

### Article III

DAFF will invite two officials of MoA to undertake 1 to 2 years study and placement in Teagasc Agriculture Colleges and provide bursaries for a value of up to €5,000 for each of two officials wishing to undertake the full one/two year education at a residential Agricultural College leading to either a FETAC level 5 certificate or a HETAC level 6 certificate. In the meantime, officers with a primary degree in Agriculture who have specialised in animal husbandry/grassland management may apply for a postgraduate degree at Teagasc/UCD in these disciplines.

### Article IV

The MoA will invite relevant officials of DAFF to China to undertake short term visits and academic exchanges. Both sides, within the framework of the MoU, will have more official visits and improve bilateral cooperation, with a view to building confidence and enhancing relations in trade and other areas within their competence.

### Article V

The Action Plan will be effective from the date of signature and valid for two years. The Action Plan will be signed on 28 May 2011 in Dublin and is done in duplicate in both English and Chinese. Both languages are equally valid.

Simon Coveney T.D.  
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food  
of Ireland

Niu Dun  
Vice Minister  
Ministry of Agriculture of the  
People's Republic of China