No. 33698

ISRAEL and FIJI

Agreement on technical cooperation and development. Signed at Jerusalem on 21 January 1996

Authentic texts: Hebrew and English. Registered by Israel on 14 April 1997.

ISRAËL et FIDJI

Accord relatif à la coopération technique et au développement. Signé à Jérusalem le 21 janvier 1996

Textes authentiques : hébreu et anglais. Enregistré par Israël le 14 avril 1997.

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Republic of Fiji (hereafter referred to as the "Parties"):

In the spirit of the friendly relations already existing between the two countries and their peoples;

Recognizing that these relations constitute the basis of the provisions of the present Agreement; and

Desiring to enhance and consolidate these relations by means of closer cooperation in the field of technical cooperation and development including manpower training in Fiji and in Israel:

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to assist in identifying and prioritising specific fields and subjects of technical cooperation between the two countries that could be of mutual interest and contribute significantly to advancing the agricultural sector in Fiji.

ARTICLE II

The Parties agree that the major thrust of this Agreement is related to agricultural development and diversification and to assist in broadening Fiji's economic base.

Within this framework the emphasis is toward diversification and consolidation of ongoing programmes and activities in the agricultural and other related sectors.

ARTICLE III

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to strengthen its activity to support the dairy industry.

¹ Came into force on 27 June 1996 by notification, in accordance with article XVII.

A technical assistance programme based on this Agreement will be formulated, and this activity will be based on short-term consultancies which will focus on animal husbandry and improved feeding systems, aiming at stream-lining and improving both the efficiency of feed supply and the output of milk and meat production.

ARTICLE IV

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to support training in dairy related projects to improve feeding systems, with emphasis on feed center operations to improve efficient feeding and production methods.

ARTICLE V

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to provide specific technical assistance in the artificial insemination for genetic improvements of dairy cattle. For this purpose, the controlled artificial insemination methods in the dairy industry shall be examined.

ARTICLE VI

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to provide training on irrigation which will focus on appropriate water-plant-soil relation, water management, water schedules and fertilisation. Emphasis will be made in the Sigatoka Valley and the "sugar belt" areas where main emphasis on crop diversification programmes in agriculture will be focussed.

ARTICLE VII

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to participate in regional training activities, involving participants from other Pacific countries to take place in Fiji.

These will involve personnel training in subjects related to producer cooperatives and farm management which will jointly be done by Israel/MASHAV/- CINADCO and the Department of Cooperatives of Fiji. This joint training programme is also planned to involved the International Labour Organization (ILO).

ARTICLE VIII

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to support training in citrus and sub-tropical fruits production, to be undertaken on a regional basis. Other related subjects could be included under this joint activity, such as: post-harvest treatments, quarantine regulations, packing and storage requirements that are suited both to local and export demand.

ARTICLE IX

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to support agroecology and meteorological training courses which will be conducted on a regional basis, and which will emphasise subjects related to agro-ecology in respect of agricultural development.

This will involve meteorological data application and other technical subjects that are common to South Pacific countries.

ARTICLE X

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to allocate a certain number of scholarships for trainees from Fiji to participate in courses in practical and theoretical fields of agriculture.

ARTICLE XI

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to offer specific technical assistance to control and treat soil-borne pathogens - including nematodes, a major pathogren causing serious economic and agro-technical damage to the ginger industry in Fiji.

ARTICLE XII

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to support specific technical assistance programmes to sustain initiatives in commercial farm enterprise development, an area of cooperation which can be supported and integrated with other diversification programmes undertaken in the country.

ARTICLE XIII

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to offer technical assistance in Tissue Culture for Clean Genetic Material.

ARTICLE XIV

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to offer technical assistance in high-value and large scale nursery plantlets and seedling production.

ARTICLE XV

The Government of the State of Israel agrees to implement this Agreement through its Centre for International Cooperation (MASHAV), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, working through its professional agency in the Israel Ministry of Agriculture (CINADCO), which will coordinate a specific request with the departments and agencies designated by the Government of Fiji.

ARTICLE XVI

The Government of the Republic of Fiji agrees:

- to provide consultants and technical advisors of the Government of the State of Israel with necessary visas, working permits and other documentation required during their service in the Republic of Fiji;
- b) to provide the consultants and technical advisors with equipment and farm implements as may be agreed mutually between the Government of the Republic of Fiji and the Government of the State of Israel, and the necessary facilities to supplement the work;
- to provide transport for personnel, machinery, tools, materials and other equipment from Suva to the project site or other Islands;
- to provide the consultants with sufficient labour to enable them to carry out their programme as may be agreed mutually between the Parties herein;
- e) to pay for the local transportation and subsistence costs of the counterpart staff participating in the projects under this Agreement; and
- f) to provide the consultants and short-term experts with necessary assistance for quarantine purposes concerning the importation of items.

ARTICLE XVII

This Agreement shall enter into force at the date of the last notification of the Parties informing each other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their internal procedures required for the entry into force of the Agreement. It shall remain valid for a period of five (5) years from the date of its entry into force and shall thereafter be automatically renewed for additional periods of five (5) years, unless either Party informs the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, ninety (90) days before the expiration of a period of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

ARTICLE XVIII

The Parties shall meet on a regular basis to assess the project activities.

ARTICLE XIX

The Agreement may be amended by common agreement between the two Parties. The amendments shall enter into force under the same procedure as the entry into force of the Agreement as elaborated in Article XVII.

Done at Jerusalem, on this 21th day of January 1996, which corresponds to the 29th day of day of Truet 5756, in two originals, in the Hebrew and English Tanguages, both being equally authentic.

For the Government of the State of Israel:

For the Government of the Republic of Fiji:

Muman Leie

¹ Shimon Perez.

² Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka.