AGREEMENT

between the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Georgia on cooperation in the field of agricultural science.

The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Ministry of agriculture and Food of Georgia hereinafter referred to as "Parties",

Expressing mutual desire to develop cooperation in the field of agricultural science,

Convinced that the cooperation in the field of agricultural science will promote a progress of agricultural, enhancement of soil fertility, productivity of crops and animals,

Aiming to create favorable conditions for the ICARDA activity on increasing of agricultural production, to conserve plant and animal genetic resources, to conserve environment in Georgia through attraction of foreign investments into agricultural science, using of expertise of the international centers of science, delivery of modern instruments and equipment, training of scientific staff,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the achievement of a fruitful cooperation the Parties will carry out:

a) the exchange of scientists, specialists and modern technologies;

b) the exchange of seed and breeding materials in accordance with laws in force in Georgia and with the International Convention on Biodiversity;

c) the exchange of scientific literature, information and methodology;

d) the import and export of items relevant to the joint scientific research programs.

Article 2

In accordance with specific agreements between Parties and within the limitations of the personnel and budgetary possibilities, the ICARDA will provide:

a) consultations from the ICARDA staff and other international and
scientific research institutes for enhancing the national research efforts of Georgia;
   b) expatriate of foreign scientists to Georgia for long terms, if it is required and feasible by the program;
   c) short-term visits of the scientists;
   d) financial support for training of national scientists and specialists of the different levels of studies, their participation in symposia, workshops and conferences, and also extension courses;
   e) seed materials in quantities necessary for experiments and large scale adaptive trials and demonstrations;
   f) scientific research items, literature and equipment.

Article 3

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food within the limitations of the personnel and budgetary possibilities, will provide:
   a) by the mutual accord – the facilities and land for research activities;
   b) by the mutual accord – scientific and necessary supporting staff for the joint projects.
   c) providing of procedures/facilities for the entry into Georgia of trainees and scholars concerned with the ICARDA program and training of Georgians abroad.
   d) Authorization for the unrestricted export of such seed and planting material of agricultural, forestry, and decorative plants, and parts of plants to and out of Georgia for the process of implementation of joint programs with ICARDA, in accordance with regulations of the international law and observation of quarantine requirements of the legislation in force of Georgia.

    Ministry will provide prompt and speeded up inspection of the material.

Article 4

The Parties agreed upon that:
   a) useful results such as improved breeding materials, technical designs and methods, created by the joint efforts, may be used by both Parties with equal rights;
   b) research findings will be published in the public interests and upon
the mutual accord;

c) in case of controversies final decision will be done in accordance with international regulations.

Article 5

Changes and additions, cleared by the separate protocols, which are the integral part of this Agreement, can be introduced to this Agreement on the mutual accord of the Parties.

Article 6

This Agreement will enter into force from the date of signing. This Agreement shall remain in force for the period of 5 (five) years, thereafter, it shall automatically be extended for the additional five year period, unless one of the Parties in writing, by the diplomatic channels, on its intention to terminate its validity, but no less than six months prior to expiry date of the Agreement.

Done in Tbilisi on June 21, 1999 in two originals, in Georgian and English, both texts are equally authoritative.

For the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Georgia

Bakur Gulua
Minister

For the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Adel El-Behagy
General Director